



## Swamped with pleas, J&K HC at 50% strength, looks to SC help

**KAUNAIN SHERIFF M**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

FLOODED WITH over 250 writs of habeas corpus seeking quashing of preventive detention, and the state just a month away from being split into two Union Territories, the two wings of Jammu & Kashmir High Court, overburdened with litigation, are functioning with just nine judges against a sanctioned strength of 17 judges.

On two separate occasions this year, Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court Gita Mittal forwarded seven names to the Supreme Court Collegium to fill the vacancies, *The Indian Express* has learnt. Not a single appointment has been made till date.

While the Supreme Court, hearing petitions related to the Valley, has sought reports from Justice Mittal on access to justice in the High Court — at one hearing this month, Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi called it “a serious matter” and said “if required, I will go personally and check” — the Collegium is yet to fill the vacancies in the High Court.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### FROM TODAY, BIG BENCH TO HEAR J&K PETITIONS

New Delhi: A clutch of petitions challenging the scrapping of Article 370 in J&K and related issues will be heard from Tuesday by a Constitution Bench headed by Justice N V Ramana and comprising Justices S K Kaul, R Subhash Reddy, B R Gavai and Surya Kant. **P7**

### BUSINESS AS USUAL

By UNNYY



## In rush for Shivaji memorial bhumi puja, Maharashtra govt cut corners for green nod



The design selected by the Maharashtra government

**VISHWAS WAGHMODE**  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

### YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW AN EXPRESS RTI APPLICATION

THE MAHARASHTRA government's Public Works Department (PWD) has taken many short cuts in the process for obtaining the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) approval to build a Shivaji memorial in the Arabian Sea off south Mumbai, according to RTI responses made available to *The Indian Express*.

For instance, the state PWD said the distance of the proposed site — a rocky outcrop in the bay between Nariman Point and Raj Bhavan, off south Mumbai — from the Gateway of India was 2 km while seeking MoEF approval in February 2015, whereas the distance was actually 12 km.

This is not the only aspect that raises eyebrows in the state government's rush to seek clear-

ances for the site of the project which has huge political resonance in Maharashtra and has been a poll plank for both the ruling BJP-Shiv Sena alliance and the Opposition Congress-NCP. The alternate sites proposed by the PWD for consideration were not serious options, as they are either heritage sites (Elephanta Caves) where construction is not permitted, or naval areas (Oyster Rock) which are out of bounds for civilians, or areas with rough seas and restrictions (Khandheri Island). Moreover, the PWD had commissioned an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



## BIHAR DY CM AMONG THE STRANDED

Bihar Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi, his family await rescue from the flooded Rajendra Nagar in Patna, Monday. **ANI PAGE 10**

## NRC fallout: Assam's N-E neighbours step up border checks, turn people away

**ABHISHEK SAHA**  
GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 30

IN THE month since the final National Register of Citizens (NRC) was published on August 31, Assam's neighbouring North Eastern states have intensified checks on people crossing state borders without proper papers, and have turned back scores of people back to Assam.

In Meghalaya, the checks are based on “valid IDs” to prove that the person is an Indian while to enter Mizoram, an Inner Line Permit (ILP) is required, which the state government grants to only those whose names appear in the NRC.



Meghalaya sent back 1,329 people without valid ID. **File**

According to data from the Meghalaya Police Monday, “1,329 detected persons without proof of Indian citizen were sent back directly to bring their documentary proof”.

DIG of the anti-infiltration and security wing of the Meghalaya Police, O Pasi, told *The Indian Express*, “Full-fledged checking is going on. We are checking what valid documents the person has — but we are not checking NRC.”

In September, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma had highlighted to Union Home Minister Amit Shah at a meeting in Guwahati that there were fears about people left out of the NRC entering Meghalaya.

To such concerns, raised by Sangma and others, Shah had said, “I want to assure both that not even one *ghuspetiya* (infiltrator) will be allowed to reside

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## Pakistan says Manmohan will be invited to Kartarpur event, his office says no word yet

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

PAKISTAN WILL invite former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as a representative of the Sikh community for the inaugural ceremony of the historic Kartarpur Corridor in November, Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi told Pakistani media Monday.

However, Singh's office said they had no information of this move, and Congress party sources said he would “decline” any such invitation.



Work in progress at the Kartarpur Corridor in Pakistan. **File**

“The Kartarpur Corridor inauguration is a big programme and Pakistan is preparing for it in a big way... After consultations,

Pakistan has decided to invite Manmohan Singh to the inauguration, who we hold in high

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### WORLD



**HAFIZ SAEED CLAIMS THREAT TO LIFE, PAK COURT SHIFTS CASE**

**IMPEACHMENT PROBE TO INTENSIFY, TRUMP DEFIANT P17**

## INX Media case: Chidambaram gets no relief, HC says may influence witnesses

**PRITAM PAL SINGH**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DELHI High Court Monday denied bail to senior Congress leader and former Union Minister P Chidambaram, who has been in judicial custody following his arrest by the CBI in the INX Media case, on the ground that the possibility of him not



Has been in judicial custody in Tihar

influencing witnesses while out on bail, “directly or indirectly, cannot be ruled out”.

Justice Suresh Kumar Kait

### MALEEHA OUT AS PAK'S U.N. ENVOY

PAKISTAN PRIME Minister Imran Khan Monday appointed Munir Akram Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN in New York, *Dawn* reported. Akram will replace Dr Maleeha Lodhi, who has held the office since February 2015. **PAGE 17**

### TITLE SUIT APPEALS

## As SC deadline nears, Ramlalla counsel says no to mediation

CJI says trying to conclude proceedings by October 18, extra sittings if need be

**ANANTHAKRISHNAN G**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AS THE Supreme Court looks at October 18 to wrap up hearings in the appeals against the 2010 order on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title suit, hopes of arriving at a negotiated settlement to the Ayodhya dispute via a parallel mediation process faded after Ramlalla Virajman, one of the three main parties to the suit, said no to further mediation.

Senior advocate C S Vaidyanathan, representing the deity in Ayodhya, conveyed this to a five-judge Constitution Bench which is hearing appeals against the September 30, 2010 verdict of the Allahabad High Court ordering a three-way division of the disputed 2.77 acres between the Nirmohi Akhara, the UP Sunni Central Waqf Board and Ramlalla Virajman.

Vaidyanathan told the bench of Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi and Justices SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer that there were reports in the media about fresh mediation and “I want to make it clear that we do not want to be part of any mediation efforts”.

The CJI said the bench was hearing the appeals and trying to wrap up the proceedings by October 18 and “if required” will sit even on Saturdays to complete it.

Exploring the mediation option, the Supreme Court had



**AYODHYA HEARING**

**EXPLAINED E.**

### Settlement via talks looks over

THE THREE-MEMBER mediation committee, formed by the SC, had given another shot at a negotiated settlement after its first effort failed. The court, while making clear that hearing of appeals will continue, had given its nod for a fresh parallel effort to resolve the vexed issue. It had also said that should there be a breakthrough, the court should be duly informed.

on March 8 constituted a three-member committee comprising its retired judge Justice F M Ibrahim Kalifulla, Art of Living founder Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and senior advocate Sriram Panchu. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

## New numbers show dip in growth of core infrastructure sectors

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GROWTH of eight infrastructure sectors contracted 0.5 per cent in August following broad-based deterioration in output across as many as five sectors, including cement and electricity. But for a turnaround in refinery products — the largest constituent of the core sector — and an uptick in the growth of fertilisers, the contraction in numbers would have been sharper.

The August numbers mark the first contraction in core infrastructure output since April 2019, pointing to the continuing weakness in demand conditions. While analysts expect the festival demand to push industrial growth, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) is likely to take note of weak demand conditions in its policy review on October 4 and cut rates.

The eight core sector industries had expanded by 4.7 per cent in August last year.

During the latest reported month, output of coal (-8.6 per cent), crude oil (-5.4 per cent), natural gas (-3.9 per cent), cement (-4.9 per cent) and electricity (-2.9 per cent) contracted while only production of refinery products (2.6 per cent), fertilizers (2.9 per cent) and steel (5 per cent) recorded a growth.

Given that private final consumption expenditure growth in June declined to its slowest in 18 quarters, there are expectations that the RBI could go beyond the 25 basis point cut to support growth. The index of industrial production (IIP) had grown 4.3 per cent in July from a downward-revised 1.2 per cent a month ago, according to data released last month.

Devendra Kumar Pant, Chief Economist and Senior Director, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**PAGE 1 ANCHOR**

**KAVITHAIYER**  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

TEN THOUSAND bottles of human faecal matter — decomposed in toilet pits that were sealed six months to a year ago, sun-dried over the last seven days, sieved into a tea leaf-like consistency and packed into glass jars — have been sent by truck from Akola in Maharashtra to Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad.

On October 2, these 100-gram jars of completely organic manure high in nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content,

and prepared with a sprinkling of seeds that will sprout upon watering, will be presented to guests at the celebration to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

For the Maharashtra government, the Akola Zilla Parishad and UNICEF, which together undertook the project to empty toilet pits, collect and process the manure, the idea is to popularise the use of decomposed waste from the nearly 10 crore toilets built across the nation under Swachh Bharat.

The Maharashtra government has christened the manure Sonu Khaad, alluding to a gold

standard of sustainability — the toilet pits can be re-used only once they are emptied, and the decomposed waste simply goes back into the soil.

UNICEF Mumbai's Water and Sanitation Hygiene specialist Yusuf Kabir, who has a teacup of Sonu Khaad on his work table, had in 2017 initiated the delinking of caste and stigma from the emptying of toilet pits. “Secretary to the Government of India Param Iyer, who was then heading the Swachh Bharat Mission, emptied out a toilet pit in a village in Telangana. Later, Bollywood actors and others emptied toilet pits, to show that

you do not even need safai workers to empty out the scientific twin pits, something not possible in a septic tank. The stigma associated with cleaning out the pits was removed,” Kabir told *The Indian Express*.

UNICEF Maharashtra, in fact, prepared a step-by-step protocol on emptying out twin pit toilets a couple of years ago. According to Kabir, giving guests at Sabarmati Ashram little jars of Sonu Khaad demonstrates the closing of the loop of an ecological cycle, “returning to nature what is natural”.

Staffers at the Akola Zilla Parishad got to work on the proj-



100g jars will be gifted to guests at the ashram

ect only on September 21, the request for the bottles of manure having arrived by mail the previous afternoon. “One big challenge was identifying toilets that had been built some time back, where a pit would have been sealed for about a year,” said Akola Zilla Parishad CEO Ayush Prasad.

There is no list of toilets with date of construction, and the officer eventually sent out a squad in a car. Equipped with shovels and other implements, the team found no suitable toilet over the first two days of scouting. Eventually, an octogenarian woman's home that had a toilet

built in 2014 yielded the desired result.

The team then began to set about looking for toilets built under previous government sanitation projects, including the Gadge Baba Gram Swachhata Abhiyaan and the Nirmal Bharat Abhiyaan of the UPA era. About 45 toilet pits were opened, but only 26 had manure while the others had waste that was still decomposing. Prasad says the team had to be particularly careful in selecting which pits to empty — emptying out a pit with waste that is not yet decomposed would amount to manual scavenging.

According to Jayant Deshpande, sanitation consultant with UNICEF, of the 10 crore toilets under SBM, at least about 6.5 crore are twin pit toilets. When used by an average Indian family, a pit gets filled up every six to seven years. Upon being sealed, faecal matter that comprises 80 per cent water undergoes anaerobic decomposition with the water draining out, each pit yielding on average 60 kg to 70 kg of manure. By that math, about 1 crore toilets may be available to be emptied every year, yielding in total about 60 lakh quintals of manure. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**





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EXPRESS AUDIO

Maharashtra: Why the BJP-Shiv Sena alliance seems unchallenged

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

With elections around the corner, this episode dives into how the BJP- Sena and Congress-NCP alliances are faring and why infighting doesn't seem to deter the former

# FROM PAGE ONE

## J&K HC

Of the nine judges in the High Court, only two judges have been assigned to hear the writs of habeas corpus in the Srinagar wing.

In March this year, the High Court Collegium, headed by Justice Mittal, forwarded four names to the Governor and the same was marked to the Supreme Court Collegium, according to the standard procedure — of two advocates from Jammu, Rajnesh Oswal and Rahul Bharti, and two advocates from Srinagar, Moksha Kazmi and Javaid Iqbal Wani. And in July, another set of three names — Registrar General of Jammu & Kashmir High Court Sanjay Dhar and two others from the lower judiciary Vinod Chatterji Koul, and Puneet Gupta — was sent.

According to procedure, the proposal for appointment of a judge of a High Court is initiated by the Chief Justice of a High Court, and the copy of the Chief Justice's proposal is sent to the Governor, and also endorsed to the Chief Justice of India and Union Minister of Law & Justice. The complete material, including the Governor's recommendation and intelligence reports, are then placed by the Law Ministry before the Supreme Court Collegium which takes the final call on recommending names to the President for appointment of judges.

While the Supreme Court Collegium is yet to take a final call on the names recommended by the High Court Collegium — the last fresh appointment made to the High Court was on August 7, 2018, when District Judge Rashid Ali Dar and advocate Sindhu Sharma were elevated as permanent judges.

While appointing Dar and Sharma, the government had returned for reconsideration the appointment of former Senior Additional Advocate General Wasim Sadiq Nagral. On January 16 this year, the Supreme Court Collegium had then asked the government to "furnish specific information" on the basis of which the proposal for elevation had been returned. It has been over nine months since and the appointment of Nagral remains pending.

Also, in 2018, two judges

were transferred to Jammu & Kashmir High Court. But this year, not a single judge has been sent to the High Court. The last transfer was effected on November 19, 2018 when Justice Rajesh Bindal, from the parent High Court of Punjab & Haryana, was transferred.

Currently, excluding Chief Justice Mittal, there are only eight judges for the two wings in Jammu and Srinagar. Even here, the situation on ground is somewhat different. According to sources, Justice Sanjay Kumar Gupta, who is undergoing medical treatment, is on medical leave from July 1. Moreover, in November, the High Court will witness a further drop in its strength after Justice Rashid Ali Dar retires — it is due on November 17.

Given the shortage of judges, urgent measures are being adopted, as is evident from the official roster of the High Court. In the first half of the day, the Srinagar wing of the High Court has only one division bench comprising Chief Justice Mittal and Justice Rashid Ali Dar; and two single-judge benches — one under Justice Ali Mohammed Magrey and another under Justice Sanjeev Kumar. The division bench hears matters related to criminal appeals, tax matters and PILs. And the two single-judge benches hear criminal and civil writ petitions, including the writs of habeas corpus. In the second half, all four judges sit separately on four single-judge benches.

Similarly, in Jammu, the division bench of Justices Rajesh Bindal and Dhiraj Singh Thakur sits in the first half of the day; and two single-judge benches, under Justice Tashi Rabstan and Justice Sindhu Sharma, sit in the first half of the day. In the second half, all four judges sit separately on four single-judge benches.

### Core infra sector

Public Finance, India Ratings & Research (Fitch Group), said the contraction in output pointed to the weak demand conditions.

"Only refinery products, fertilisers and steel output increased in August 2019. All eyes are on festival demand to push industrial growth. The MPC will take note of weak demand, falling growth and low inflation in its monetary policy review on 4 October 2019. Ind-Ra expects a rate cut in October monetary policy review, however, the extent of cut could depend on the assessment of growth impact of policy measures announced by the government in past few weeks".

Aditi Nayar, Principal Economist, ICRA Ltd, termed the performance of core sectors in August 2019 as "disappointingly weak" and indicated that "although the contraction in cement output was partly on account of a high base, this in conjunction with the moderation in the growth of steel output does not bode well for the pace of construction activities in Q2 (second quarter of ) FY2020".

"The weak performance of electricity generation in August 2019 was driven by the contraction of 3.5 per cent in thermal electricity generation, in contrast to the moderately healthy expansion of 6.2 per cent in July 2019," she said.

However, with the pickup in rainfall and reservoir storage levels, hydro electricity generation rose by 6.7 per cent in August 2019, after having reported a YoY stagnation in the previous month, Nayar said.

The RBI had projected GDP growth for the current fiscal at 6.9 per cent — in the range of 5.8-6.6 per cent for the first half of 2019-20 and 7.3-7.5 per cent for the second half. This could be further revised downward during its October policy review, given the lower-than-expected June quarter GDP growth.

Last week, the Manila-based Asian Development Bank had cut its growth forecast for India for fiscal 2019-20 to 6.5 per cent from 7 per cent projected two months ago.

## Manmohan

regard. He will represent the Sikh community," Qureshi was quoted as saying in Pakistani media reports.

"On behalf of the government, as the foreign minister of Pakistan, I invite him to attend the inauguration of the Kartarpur Corridor," said Qureshi, according to the reports.

Reacting to the reports, sources close to Singh said: "We have not got any invitation. We have only heard about it in the media."

Sources in the Congress indicated that Singh would decline the invitation. He did not visit Pakistan "even once when he was the Prime Minister for ten years", they said.

Pakistan is scheduled to open the Kartarpur Corridor for Indian Sikh pilgrims on November 9, ahead of the 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak on November 12.

The corridor will connect Darbar Sahib in Pakistan with Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur. Pakistan has agreed to allow 5,000 Sikh pilgrims from India to visit on a daily basis to Darbar Sahib in Narowal through the Kartarpur corridor.

While Pakistani officials have said that over 85 per cent of work on the corridor has been completed, differences remain between India and Pakistan on various issues, including a service fee and the number of pilgrims to be allowed on special occasions and protocol officials to accompany them.

—WITH PTI INPUTS

### Shivaji memorial

for the site it wanted months ahead of getting the go-ahead from the MoEF. Neither of the two alternate sites considered in the EIA was in the list of three alternate sites the PWD forwarded through the Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority

# Ayodhya party rules out mediation

Reviewing the progress on August 1, the court announced that the process had failed to make any headway and, five days later, started day-to-day hearing on the appeals. Subsequently, the mediation committee once again approached the bench, saying it had received letters from Zufar Farooqui, chairman of the Sunni Waqf Board, and Dharam Das of the Nirvani Akhara, who had called for resumption of the mediation process.

On September 18, the Supreme Court said that "the hearing of the appeals, which is at a very advanced stage, will continue without any interruption. If, in the meantime, the parties desire to settle the matter(s), including, by resort to mediation by the earlier constituted mediation panel, they may do so and place the settlement before the Court, if reached".

It also made it clear that "the terms and the process of settlement including mediation, if resorted to, will abide by our earlier order dated 8th March, 2019, with regard to confidentiality".

Meanwhile, the bench Monday questioned one of the Muslim litigants on its contention that the legal validity of the actions of Mughal emperor Babur — during whose time the Babri Masjid was said to have been built — had to be judged on the touchstone of the law prevailing then and not in the context of the Shariah law.

The Hindu parties had contended that Babur was an invader and his rights could not be legitimised.

"Are you trying to say that a sovereign is not bound by Quranic injunctions?" Justice Bhushan asked advocate Mohammad Nizam Pasha who appeared for Faizabad resident Misbahuddin.

Pasha said Babur was a sovereign and all land was vested in him and evaluating his actions in the context of Shariah law would not be the proper way. He said the fact that Babur invoked the Quran at times to justify his actions or to motivate his men did not mean that his actions can be judged in the context of Shariah law.

Pasha said a constitutional court today cannot evaluate the validity of the actions of a sovereign 500 years ago and

# Assam's neighbours intensify border checks

in Assam nor be allowed to enter into any other state. We do not want to free only Assam from infiltrators but free the entire country from intruders; and, when I say the entire country, the states of North East India are included in that."

Last year after the draft NRC was published, the powerful Khasi Students Union (KSU) had set up check gates on their own alleging that state was not doing enough checking. Later, these check gates were withdrawn when state police intensified checks.

In Mizoram, Home Minister Lalchamlana had said in September that ILPs will not be issued to Assam residents whose names did not figure in the NRC.

The ILP is based on the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act (BEFR), 1873, and it is a special permit that is required by "outsiders" from other regions of India to enter the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram.

In Kolabis district, which borders Assam, police say that non-ILP holders are detained every day and people from Assam without names in NRC are granted an ILP.

Kolasib SP, Vanlalfaka Ralte, told The Indian Express, "Our checking has intensified after the NRC publication and ILP is not issued to those from Assam who do not have

names in the NRC."

"Everyday, 10-15 people without ILP attempting to enter Mizoram are caught. You can calculate from that the total number since September 1."

Nagaland officials confirmed that they too have intensified checks and people from Assam are asked for proof of their names in the NRC before issuing an ILP. "If they do not have, they can give some other valid ID also. But there has been no case of suspicious people from Assam not on the NRC trying to enter Nagaland," a senior official.

Abhijit Sinha, Principal Secretary (Home), Nagaland, told *The Indian Express*, "Our

checks and monitoring have been intensified and manpower required has also been increased. Post the publication of NRC in Assam there were apprehensions that there could be movement of illegal immigrants into Nagaland. As of now, the flow has been normal."

In an order dated September 2, Sinha had said that any usual influx of people without valid document has to be immediately brought to the notice of the district administration and that village and town authorities need to maintain strict vigil "against influx of people from outside the state in violation of the existing rules/norms."

## Chidambaram

registered an FIR in May 2017, alleging irregularities in the FIPB clearance granted to the INX Media group for receiving overseas funds in 2007 during Chidambaram's tenure as Finance Minister — and said: "During investigation, as per 'Sealed Cover', it is revealed that Indrani Mukerjee and Peter Mukerjee (accused) met the petitioner even before the filing of application before FIPB Unit during which the petitioner assured them regarding the FIPB approval and, in lieu thereof, directed that the business interest of his son Karti Chidambaram, who is also an accused, should be taken care of and certain overseas transactions should made in his favour."

"It is also on record that large sums of monies has come into the companies owned and/or controlled by the co-conspirator Karti P Chidambaram during the relevant period for the favours shown by the petitioner to INX Media," the order noted.

Holding that the "order of remand, for judicial custody, of the trial court is justified", Justice Kait said: "It cannot be disputed that if the case is proved against the petitioner (Chidambaram), the offence is on the society, economy, financial stability and integrity of the country."

"It is a fact that the entire community is aggrieved if the economic offenders, who ruin the economy of the state, are not brought to book as such offences affect the very fabric of democratic governance and probity in public life," he said.

Justice Kait also considered the submission of Solicitor General Tushar Mehta that two

material witnesses have been approached by the accused "not to disclose" any information regarding him and his son Karti.

"This court cannot dispute the fact that the petitioner has been a strong Finance Minister and Home Minister and presently, Member of Indian Parliament. He is a respectable member of the Bar Association of Supreme Court of India. He has long standing in the Bar as a Senior Advocate."

"He has deep roots in the Indian society and may be some connection abroad. But the fact that he will not influence the witnesses, directly or indirectly, cannot be ruled out... Moreover, the investigation is at an advanced stage... therefore, this court is not inclined to grant bail," Justice Kait said.

He did not, however, agree with the SG's contention of Chidambaram being a flight risk or the possibility of tampering with evidence. "...there is no evidence on record that the petitioner tried to flee from India. The situation of 'Flight-Risk' is possible only if no look-out notice is issued or an accused is not so popular and can leave the country based upon forged passport in the name of other persons..."

On the possibility of evidence tampering, he said it is not in dispute that documents relating to the present case are in the custody of the prosecuting agency, Government of India and the court. "Moreover, the petitioner is not in power, except he is a Member of Parliament. Therefore, in my considered view, there is no chance of the petitioner tampering with the evidence," he said.

Probing charges of corruption in the INX Media case, the CBI had arrested Chidambaram on August 21 night. The next day he was remanded in CBI custody. He is now in judicial custody in Tihar Jail till October 3.

## Sabarmati

"In addition, the toilets themselves get some maintenance, and there is rural employment generated in emptying the pits and making the manure available," Deshpande said. For the October 2 function, the Akola ZP used an in-house IT engineer's Clipart skills to design a label with a logo depicting the shape of the Indian squatting toilet and maize growing around the pit.

The label describes the process of making and using Sona Khaad. The glass jars, the kind used to pack ghee or pickle, were procured from Vadodra; packaging was designed locally with the 'Maha Sona Khaad' branding and the total project cost kept at approximately Rs 3 lakh — the manure was free, the main costs were the bottles, packaging and transportation.

A dilapidated complex in Akola was used to spread out the collected manure on mats where it was dried using fans and halogen lights as rains continued. In all, 10,240 jars were packed into cartons and despatched in a truck.

Prasad, who followed the Rabi 2018 experiments by the Directorate of Onion and Garlic research near Pune in which Sona Khaad was used on onion fields before transplanting, said that initial assessments showed higher presence of nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (NPK) in the onions, as well as improved yield. "Mahasona Khaad is evidence of a cleaner India, achieved by millions of its poor citizens. It contains decomposed material that may have otherwise caused diarrhoea and killed millions of children. These bottles show that the value chain of sanitation is now complete," he said.

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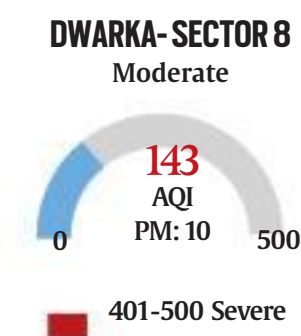
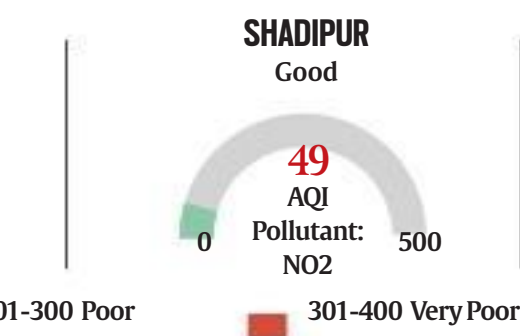
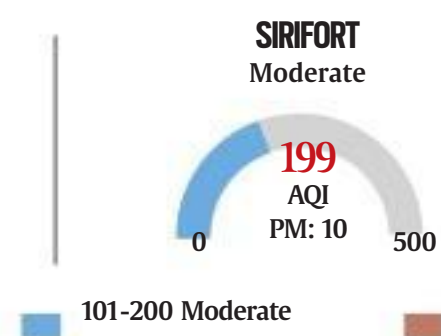
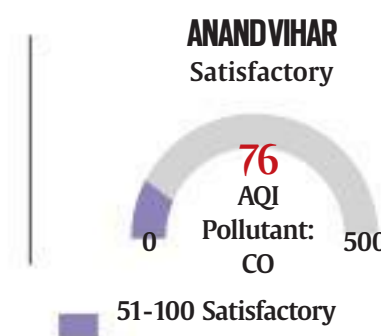








0-50 Good



## CALL CENTRE HAD 300 EMPLOYEES, RAID UNDERWAY

# Clinic promised couples male child through IVF abroad

**ASTHA SAXENA**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

A CENTRAL inspection team has blown the lid off what appears to be a major sex selection racket running from the heart of Delhi.

The team Monday conducted a raid on a clinic in Karol Bagh offering gender identification services and found around 300 computer systems allegedly used to make calls to couples who wanted a child. The team, comprising officers from the Delhi health department, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the National Commission for Women (NCW), were at the centre till late Monday night.

According to officials, the clinic operated out of a call centre where 300-odd people would offer in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) to people in India and promise to take them to coun-

## EXPLAINED Violation of law

THE Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994, was enacted to prevent sex-selective abortions. It banned hospitals, nursing homes and clinics from using ultrasonography or any other technique to determine the gender of an unborn child. Using ultrasound to determine and communicate to the parents the sex of the foetus is an offence, which can lead to a 3-year jail term and a Rs 10,000 fine.

tries like Thailand, Singapore and Dubai, promising a male child.

The raid was conducted after the Health Ministry received a complaint about the centre offering illegal sex selection services. A decoy couple was sent to the centre, and they were asked to pay Rs 8.5 lakh for a 15-day package in Dubai.

"The centre would guarantee a male child by identifying the gender of the foetus. The couples were allowed to select the sex of the child before leaving the country. We had received a complaint from the Health Ministry after which we planned a raid," said Dr Nutan Mundeja, director, Directorate of Family Welfare, Delhi government.

Sex selection is banned in India but allowed in countries like the US, Mexico, Thailand, Singapore and Dubai.

But identifying the child's gender through IVF and other technologies such as pre-implan-

tation genetic diagnosis, pre-implantation genetic screening and sperm-sorting has emerged as the next challenge towards curbing female infanticide, said officials. "A new trend is emerging called reproductive tourism. There are IVF centres abroad that offer sex selection services. Couples who are either unable to conceive or want a male child are being approached. We will seal this centre by midnight," said Dr Nitin Kumar, special programme officer of PC-PNDT, Delhi government.

The state PC-PNDT cell maintains a record of all centres and machines that provide ultrasonography services. The cell, on an average, conducts 1-2 raids a month, depending on availability of officers.

As per the process, officials from the department receive a tip-off from informers, and a decoy is pulled in to contact the lab/doctor involved.

# 42-yr-old woman who died is case study against commercial surrogacy

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

RAISING RED flags on the impact of commercial surrogacy, doctors at AIIMS have published a case of a 42-year-old woman who died in the 17th week of her pregnancy owing to a medical history of tuberculosis, hydrocephalus and depression. The surrogate, carrying twins, was referred to AIIMS in September 2018 from a private hospital for medical termination of pregnancy (MTP).

The case has been published in *RFP Journal of Hospital Administration*, and highlights the need for stringent surrogacy laws. The Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2019, which has been introduced recently, seeks to completely ban commercial surrogacy in the country. It also provides for the constitution of surrogacy boards at national and state levels.

"Her body was brought to the mortuary of department of forensic medicine & toxicology for post-



Doctors at AIIMS published the case of a surrogate mother who died owing to medical complications

mortem. The surrogacy regulation law 2018 was also framed to regulate commercialisation of surrogacy. In this case, a financially challenged woman became a surrogate without providing previous disease history, which later led to complications. The woman died due to non-compliance of surrogacy regulatory laws," said Dr Abhishek Yadav, assistant professor, department of forensic

medicine and toxicology, AIIMS.

Surrogacy is a contract in which a woman bears a child for another couple; the child may be genetically linked to her in case she donates her ovum. According to doctors, for a woman to be chosen as surrogate, she has to undergo inquisitive laboratory and medical examination, provide any past history of medical conditions and family history of diseases.

The investigation further revealed that during the second trimester, she was admitted to a private hospital for treatment of vomiting. She gave a history of consuming 15-20 antidepressants and was advised to undergo genetic counselling. But her condition worsened and she had to be shifted to the emergency, where she died. "As per the guidelines of ICMR, which were followed before the approval of Surrogacy Regulation Bill, she was not a suitable surrogate to carry foetus. Still, somehow, she was chosen to carry babies," added Dr Yadav.

According to the new bill, a certificate of essentiality should be issued after securing a certificate of proven infertility of one or both members of the intending couple from a district medical board; an order of parentage and custody of the surrogate child passed by a magistrate's court; and insurance coverage for a period of 16 months covering postpartum delivery complications for the surrogate.

## Two held for kidnapping baby

**New Delhi:** A 29-year-old woman and a man allegedly kidnapped a 12-day-old baby from her mother in Delhi on September 17.

Police said the victim and the accused knew each other, and the accused took the baby on the pretext of taking care of her.

Atul Kumar Thakur, DCP (South), said the duo was arrested and the baby was returned to her mother. **ENS**

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## HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY *of* OLDER PERSONS

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- Fund 108 Senior Citizen recreation centres; 32 more to be opened soon
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“ Love and respect toward elders is our duty.  
All the elders of Delhi are like my family. It is their blessings  
that have brought development to Delhi. We can only  
find joy and prosperity in our lives with the blessings of elders.”

- Arvind Kejriwal  
Chief Minister, Delhi





DAYS AFTER SC PANEL ORDER

# Puri says will change Master Plan to accommodate gyms

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

UNION HOUSING and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Puri Monday said gyms will be accommodated in the new Master Plan for Delhi, which is under deliberation at the moment. At a public event, Puri said: "We will change the master plan of Delhi to accommodate gyms; won't allow for encroachment of land."

This comes days after the Supreme Court-appointed monitoring committee ordered sealing of all fitness centres, gyms and yoga and meditation centres which opened after August 12, 2008. The Master Plan of Delhi (MPD) 2021 does not allow fitness centres outside of DDA



He also said encroachment will not be allowed

market complexes or shopping malls. However, an amendment in 2013 had declared gyms and centres that came up before August 12, 2008, as legal.

Brijesh Goyal, national convener of the Chamber of Trade and Industry (CTI), had written to the Ministry of Housing and

Urban Affairs asking for an extension of the deadline.

"We haven't started working on it yet," said a senior official of the Delhi Development Authority on amending MPD 2021 to accommodate gyms.

The cut-off for gyms and fitness centres in residential areas, as per DDA notifications, was extended twice from the earlier date of September 6, 2006, to February 2, 2007, and then to August 12, 2008. As per the recent order by the SC monitoring committee, gyms and fitness centres are not permissible after this cut-off as per MPD 2021, "irrespective of the status of the road, that is, commercial, mixed land or non-notified".

Many stakeholders have asked for an extension of the

deadline, including Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor. "The impractical Master Plan allowed car showrooms in residential areas although a family buys a car once in years, but doesn't allow gyms which are used by a large number of people. We have requested the minister to extend the deadline and give them relief," said Kapoor.

In a statement, he claimed discrepancies left by the then Congress government while bringing the MPD 2021 is the cause for the sealing threat, and that the Centre should bail them out. Goyal had, meanwhile, cited the example of restaurants: "It has come to my knowledge that the DDA has given relaxations to restaurants on ground floors...The DDA can give us relaxations too."

## Kasturba Gandhi Marg project won't hurt green cover: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

UNION MINISTER of Housing and Urban Affairs Hardeep Singh Puri said no trees will have to be cut for the redevelopment of Kasturba Gandhi Marg GPRA project, which was inaugurated by him Monday.

The residential complex will be constructed by the Central Works Public Department (CPWD), at a total cost of Rs 2,428 crore, in two phases.

Puri Monday tweeted, "This state-of-the-art low-carbon footprint redevelopment project will have a 30% green cover. The plans have been made in such a way that no trees will be cut. In fact, 186 trees will be re-located using modern technologies as has been successfully done elsewhere."

Earlier in the day, while laying the foundation stone for the project, he said: "I assure all stakeholders that all the redevelopment work will happen without compromising on green cover. The ministry's effort is in the direction of increasing green cover."

Green space would constitute 33 per cent of the total area, he said.

Director General of the CPWD, Prabhakar Singh, said the focus will be on eco-friendly development, and that the 186 trees coming in the alignment of building towers will be transplanted within the campus.

Organic waste composts, harvesting systems, rooftop solar panels of 800 KW capacity and MBBR technology-based sewage treatment plants would be put in place, Singh added.

## Historians float petition for clarity on Central Vista

New Delhi: A petition was floated on the website *change.org* on September 27, calling for the cancellation of tenders for the Central Vista redevelopment project. Historians Narayani Gupta and Sohail Hashmi are among the three who started the petition, which has garnered around 3,000 signatures. Hardeep Singh Puri, Union Minister of Urban Development, had announced the plan for the redevelopment of the Central

Vista by 2024, which includes the Parliament, Rajpath, and many government buildings.

The petition argues that the proposal has been "initiated without consulting stakeholders and public at large". "In the 1980s, there was an open competition asking for designs for the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts. It was a democratic process. There is lack of clarity as to which areas would be redesigned," said Narayani Gupta. **ENS**

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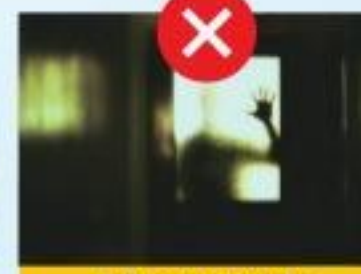
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## BRIEFLY

## Water supply to be hit

**New Delhi:** Heavily polluted water from Haryana has forced water treatment plants at Wazirabad, Chandrawal and Okhla to work below capacity, affecting water supply in several parts of the city. DJB officials said parts of North East Delhi, West Delhi, North Delhi, Central Delhi, South Delhi, including Delhi Cant and NDMC areas will be the worst hit.

## Worker dies as tanker goes up in flames

**New Delhi:** A 26-year-old labourer died while another received 50% burn injuries after a gas tanker they were dismantling burst into flames Monday. DCP (North East) Ved Prakash Surya said, "The incident took place in Harsh Vihar. We received a call at 7.14 pm about a fire in a tanker in Mandoli Industrial Area."

## Noida body looks at smart traffic system

**Noida:** Noida Authority is planning to implement an Intelligent Traffic Monitoring System, with increased surveillance across 80 locations, to improve traffic conditions. In a meeting chaired by Noida Authority CEO Ritu Maheshwari, several aspects of ITMS, to be implemented in over a year, were discussed.

## 11-year-old boy among 2 killed in crash

**Ghaziabad:** Two people, including an 11-year-old boy, died after the autorickshaw they were travelling in rammed a tractor in Ghaziabad's Loni, said police. The victims, Shiva and Rakesh (40), were rushed to a nearby hospital where they were declared dead on arrival. The driver fled.

## HC refuses to stay disqualification

**New Delhi:** The Delhi High Court Monday refused to stay the operation of the Delhi Assembly Speaker's decision to disqualify former AAP MLAs from Bijwasan and Gandhi Nagar, Devinder Sehrawat and Anil Kumar Bajpai, under the anti-defection law.

## Bring kids on board dengue fight: CM

**New Delhi:** CM Arvind Kejriwal Monday asked principals and vice-principals of private and government-aided schools to educate children about dengue, chikungunya, and pollution and bring them on board in fighting the issues. He will interact with children on October 1 via video conference.

## Gangster's associate held

**New Delhi:** A 33-year-old man, a close associate of gangster Kapil Sangwan, was arrested following a shootout in Dwarka Monday, said police. **ENS**

## COMMENTS INSULTING TOWARDS PEOPLE OF BIHAR, SAY TIWARI, GOEL

## Purvanchal politics heats up as BJP takes aim at CM over hospital remark

At Sunday event, Kejriwal had spoken about people from outside the capital availing healthcare services here

**ABHINAV RAJPUT**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DELHI BJP Monday trained its guns on Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal over his remark on people from outside the capital availing healthcare facilities here, saying that the comments were "humiliating" towards people from Bihar and other states.

While laying the foundation stone of a new trauma centre Sunday, Kejriwal had said that people from Delhi found long queues at hospitals because those from outside were also flocking to avail healthcare facilities here. This, he said, was a testament to how much the health infrastructure had improved in the city, and how free medicines and treatment were a major draw.

"A person from Bihar buys a Rs 500 ticket, comes to Delhi, gets a Rs 5 lakh operation free in a Delhi hospital and returns. This does make us happy — that people from our own country are getting good treatment and are happy. But Delhi has its own capacity; how can it treat everyone in the country?" the CM had said. Speaking at a press conference



**Tiwari also hit out at the Delhi CM for 'not implementing the Ayushman Bharat scheme in the capital'. Express**

Monday, Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said: "If people from Bihar or other states come here for treatment, why is Kejriwal in pain?"

"First, he did not give benefits of Ayushman Bharat to people in Delhi, and now he feels the pain if people from other states, especially Bihar, come here," he said. "People from Purvanchal and other states will teach Kejriwal a lesson in the upcoming elections because of the hatred he has shown towards them."

BJP's Rajya Sabha MP Vijay Goel also raised the issue: "I want

to ask Kejriwal ji how he can say Bihar and Purvanchal are a burden on Delhi... Delhi is not his private property... most of the health infrastructure was built by government before him... he has insulted the people of Bihar, and the BJP will make it a big issue."

Migrants from Bihar and Eastern UP, who have come to be known as Purvanchalis in the capital, are estimated to comprise nearly a third of the city's over 2 crore population. With elections just four months away, the vote bank will be crucial in deciding political fortunes.

## Sanjay Singh asks BJP to look at Gujarat, Maharashtra, Assam

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

UNDER FIRE from the BJP, the AAP Monday fielded its Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh and MLAs Sanjeev Jha and Rituraj Govind, both Purvanchalis, to counter the onslaught.

"The party that makes people of UP-Bihar die in Maharashtra, Gujarat; makes millions of UP-Bihar people homeless by implementing NRC in Assam and declaring them foreigners in their own country, has suddenly become worried about Purvanchalis," said Singh.

"CM Kejriwal made a simple statement that people from UP and Bihar come to Delhi for better treatment because the Delhi government has improved the health sector," he added.

"The AAP government has worked hard to empower the people of UP and Bihar who live in Delhi. But the BJP has tortured the people of Purvanchal and



**AAP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh**

thrown them out from states like Maharashtra, Gujarat. When people of UP and Bihar were being tortured in Surat, (Delhi BJP chief) Manoj Tiwari never spoke against it. When people of UP and Bihar were tortured in Ahmedabad, then neither the PM nor the Home Minister spoke a single word," Singh said.

He went on to refer to the deaths of infants due to encephalitis in Eastern UP's Gorakhpur. "Many infant deaths also took in place in Bihar's Muzaffarpur. The BJP is bringing up such absurd issues to divert attention from the case of a rape committed by BJP leader Chinmayanand or from the issue of the flood in UP and Bihar," he said.

## Sort differences, stop leaks: BJP diktat to leaders

**ABHINAV RAJPUT**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AFTER SOME incidents of scuffles involving local party leaders came to light, senior BJP leaders have stepped in and asked them to put their house in order by ensuring protocol is followed when it comes to giving space to party leaders on the stage during events, and not "leaking" internal matters to media, it is learnt.

The reasons for clashes among BJP workers and councillors included issues like a particular leader not being given enough prominence at an event to whose face was bigger on a poster.

The party had got reports of such incidents from Dwarka, Rajendra Nagar, Gokulpuri and Kirari over the past two weeks.

Senior leaders said they were upset with clashes and also the fact that the complaint letters that were filed afterwards were "leaked" to the media.

Delhi BJP in-charge Shyam Jaju said, "When there is a big party with so many members in the family, there will be differences, but the issues are being solved."

Senior BJP leaders, in a recent meeting, also warned that such incidents not just damage the party's image but also distract at-



**Delhi BJP in-charge Shyam Jaju said issues are being solved. Archive**

tention from its main agenda. "The party had planned an outreach programme at 22 unauthorised colonies but people were only talking about the clashes," a leader said.

A part of the outreach programme was scheduled to happen on September 29, but the party decided to take a break and put their house in order before launching the next phase, he said.

The BJP central leadership had earlier directed its Delhi unit leaders to conduct a survey to take feedback from residents of unauthorised colonies, which was conducted on September 22.

Senior leaders said that before the next phase of the outreach programme, they should be provided details of people whose picture will be on party banners as well as who will get seats on the stage.

## Snatchers touch woman's feet, then flee with chain

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

PRETENDING TO be injured in an accident, two men stopped outside a 60-year-old woman's house to ask for help — before snatching her gold chain and fleeing. The incident, among a series of snatching cases in the capital, took place in Jyoti Nagar Saturday.

Police said the woman, Prakash, reported the matter Sunday and a case under IPC sections 392 and 34 was registered.

She said that around 3.15 pm, two men came on a bike and stopped outside her house. "I was sitting on a cot with my cousin. One of them told us he had injured his hand and asked for some turmeric. I went inside and fetched it. The man applied the powder on his fingers, thanked me, and got on the bike. The other man came towards me and touched my feet — before shoving me and snatching my chain. The duo then fled on the

## Three journalists were also allegedly targeted by snatchers. No arrest has been made in any of the cases

bike," she said in her complaint.

The same day, two women journalists were also allegedly targeted by snatchers. No arrest has been made in either case.

According to police, an intern with *The Hindu* was robbed by two bike-borne men on her birthday in the early hours of Saturday. Eva Thakur (20) was returning home with her friends in an auto when the men took the bag from her lap. "I tried to look at the number plate of the bike but it was blank," she said.

A trainee journalist with a TV channel was allegedly robbed of her mobile phone when she was covering the PM's Road Show outside the Palam Air Force Station in Delhi Cantt. The inci-

dent took place around 9.30 pm when she was about to record a video on her OnePlus 7 phone. "I was surrounded by many people. I was about to record the video when a man came and snatched the phone from my hands, I couldn't even see his face. I tried to chase him but failed," she said.

DCP (South West) Devender Arya said, "The incident took place during the PM rally. We have recorded a statement."

On Monday, another journalist was allegedly robbed by two men when he was in an auto. The incident took place around 10 am near Ashram. Pushkar Banakar, who works with *The New Indian Express*, was on his way to Janakpuri with his friends when the accused men snatched his phone and fled.

"Police is taking special measures to check street crime near temples and Ramtilas. Pickets and patrolling teams have been deployed to check movements of criminals," said a Delhi Police spokesperson.

## RAMLILA SEASON

**At the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra's dance drama, 'Shriram', Sunday. It was inaugurated by Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu. Renuka Puri**

## Elderly couple's Hauz Khas home burgled, cash, jewellery missing

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

ON THE afternoon of September 25, the house of an elderly couple in South Delhi's Hauz Khas was allegedly burgled by unknown miscreants.

Former journalist Shashi Mehta (64) and her husband Naresh (67) returned to their second-floor home from India Habitat Centre (IHC) around 4 pm and discovered that "the main door lock was broken, and the wooden door next to it with three locks was also broken," as per the FIR.

The FIR states, "The almirah drawers of three bedrooms were ransacked... in one drawer, we had Rs 25,000 which was stolen. A gold chain, two gold bangles, two gold and diamond rings, one mobile and other small items are missing."

Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said the couple was at IHC and their son was in Mumbai that day.

"The couple left for the US the next day. A case has been registered at Hauz Khas police station," said Thakur.

The FIR states that the two left for IHC at 1.15 pm and returned at 4 pm.

"It's shocking for us senior citizens and we are worried about our safety," said Shashi in the FIR.

As per a police officer, footage from a CCTV camera on the first floor is yet to be accessed.

"The person who lives on the first floor is also travelling, and as soon as he returns, we will get the footage. The phone that has been stolen has been put on surveillance and we are investigating the matter," said a police officer.

## As odd-even, free rides approach, bus procurement yet to gather pace

**SOURAV ROY BARMAN**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

WITH TWO major transport policy interventions — odd-even and free rides for women — approaching, the Delhi government has its "fingers crossed" that its bus fleet will be able to absorb the potential rise in passenger volume, having missed the September deadline.

As part of the timeline to augment the cluster bus fleet, Delhi is supposed to get at least 320 new buses ahead of October 29, when the scheme to allow women to travel for free in buses will come into force. The odd-even policy will be enforced between November 4-15.

Of the 320 buses, 25 arrived in August, bringing the cluster bus fleet to 1,679. In September and October, 125 and 170 buses were to be added. However, in September, 25 buses arrived from the manufacturing facility,



**Delhi is supposed to get 320 new buses ahead of Oct 29**

Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot said the buses are undergoing trials, during which features they are equipped with, such as CCTVs and lifts, are being monitored. "Another 30-40 buses are on their way to Delhi from the factory. We are hoping to stick to the timeline," he said.

A transport department official said the government has its "fingers crossed" as registration

of buses also take time.

The minister has returned from a three-day official trip to Brussels, Paris and Geneva, where he studied implementation of various car-restriction measures and a special transport card for tourists. "By virtue of an arrangement between many hotels and the Transport Authority in Geneva, as soon as guests check in, they are provided with

and tested method used around the world," said a statement issued by the CM office.

Kejriwal had met the L-G last week, where the idea was discussed.

The CM, the statement said, expressed his desire to bring industry associations on board since several industrial areas can also implement the staggered hour plan. **ENS**

## Staggered work hours: CM meets experts for talks

**New Delhi:** Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal Monday met experts to discuss implementing staggered office timings in the city to reduce pollution and congestion.

The CM met O P Aggarwal, CEO of World Resources Institute, to discuss the move. "We are pursuing the idea of staggering office hours to cut down on vehicular emissions due to congestion. This is a tried

and tested method used around the world," said a statement issued by the CM office.

Kejriwal had met the L-G last week, where the idea was discussed.

The CM, the statement said, expressed his desire to bring industry associations on board since several industrial areas can also implement the staggered hour plan. **ENS**

## Ex-DMC secy among four named in cheating complaint

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

DELHI MINORITIES Commission (DMC) chairperson Zafarul Islam Khan has filed a complaint of cheating against three employees of the commission as well as its former secretary. An FIR was registered two weeks ago at Central Delhi's IP Estate police station.

"During inspection in January and May, we found that a lot of office supplies were ordered but not delivered. These included pens, glue sticks, laptops, coolers, pedestal fans, umbrellas and electric kettles. There have all been purchased on paper. The former secretary did this in connivance with the rest of the employees," alleged Khan.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Central) Mandeep Singh Randhawa said, "An FIR was filed and investigation is on. No arrests have been made yet." The FIR states that orders for 300 pencils, 8,000 plastic folders, a coffee machine, photostat rims, 120 staplers, 20 umbrellas, 10 extension cords, 100 glue sticks, 48 dusters and three LCD monitors, among other items, were made. However, none of the supplies reached office.

"Some items have also gone missing from the store room, including an Apple laptop," alleged Khan.



# 7 GOVT & POLITICS



**DELHI CONFIDENTIAL**



## HELPING HAND

BEING A Lok Sabha member comes with its share of responsibilities. This was evident as senior parliamentarian and first-time Lok Sabha MP Ravi Shankar Prasad rushed to Patna, his constituency, amid a flood situation. While doing so, Prasad, who also holds the telecom portfolio, had to skip an important meeting with Vodafone CEO Nicholas Jonathan Read. Prasad, who was in Jaipur when he was informed about the gravity of the situation in Patna, boarded a train and rushed to Delhi, from where he took a flight to his constituency. He is expected to be back in the capital after normalcy returns in Patna.

## COURT CODE

THE SUPREME Court has decided to go back to its old pin code of 110001, and asked all concerned to take note. Sources said that though the top court was granted the exclusive pin code 110201 some six years ago, people continued to use the old one, and thus two pin codes came to be in use. This led to delays in delivery of mails to the court. The postal department took it up with the court recently, following which it was decided to return to the old code.

## TERSE REPLY

THE ELECTION Commission has refused to give an opinion on whether YSRC MP Vijay Sai Reddy's appointment as a special representative to the state will be deemed an 'Office of Profit'. Reddy sought the EC's advice before joining the post. Apparently, the poll panel has said in a terse letter that it will not respond to requests for an opinion on 'Office of Profit' matters unless a formal reference comes from the President or the Governor.

## GUESSING GAME

MP HOPEFULS in the BJP are engaged in a guessing game about who is going to land the Rajya Sabha seats that fell vacant after the death of former finance minister Arun Jaitley (Uttar Pradesh) and Ram Jethmalani (Bihar). Although the BJP and JD(U) have not arrived at an agreement on which party will nominate the candidate, the seat in UP has generated an interesting debate about the potential candidates: whether former Union minister Manoj Sinha will make the cut, or a party general secretary waiting long enough, or someone else.

# Constitution Bench to hear all pleas linked to Article 370 from today

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

SET UP to hear the challenge to amendments made to Article 370 of the Constitution, thereby scrapping special status to Jammu and Kashmir, the Supreme Court Constitution Bench will also take up petitions against alleged detentions and communications blackout in J&K following the Union government's August 5 move.

On Monday, a bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi transferred all petitions pending before it to the Constitution Bench headed by Justice N V Ramana. The bench

was constituted especially to hear matters related to Article 370 starting Tuesday.

These include pleas by Anuradha Bhasin, executive editor of *Kashmir Times* newspaper; the habeas corpus petition by CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury questioning detention of party colleague Yusuf Tarigami; and Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad seeking permission to travel to J&K.

The CJ-led bench refused to keep pending a habeas corpus petition filed by Rajya Sabha member and MDMK leader Vaiko, seeking production of former J&K chief minister Farooq Abdullah. The court said that nothing survived in it after

Abdullah's detention under the Public Safety Act.

"After the filing of the writ petition, Dr Farooq Abdullah has been detained under the Public Safety Act. The said detention is open to challenge before the appropriate forum. In that view of the matter, we find that no live issue remains to be adjudicated in this writ petition. The same is, accordingly, dismissed," the court said.

Appearing for Vaiko, senior advocate Ajmal Khan questioned the detention order and said the government could not render the petition pending before it infructuous with its action. The bench replied that the petitioner is at liberty to approach the appropriate

forum, if so advised.

The court also referred a petition filed by Bhasin against what she claimed was a "communications blackout" after the August 5 decision to the bench headed by Justice Ramana.

While Bhasin's counsel told the bench that the government is yet to file its response to the petition, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the reply is ready and that it will be filed before the Constitution Bench.

Mehta also contended that nothing survived in Yechury's petition on Tarigami, as the J&K leader had also moved court in his personal capacity. The court told Mehta to raise this before the Constitution bench.

# Shah: Art 370 removal was PM homage to martyred jawans

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah said Monday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has paid "real homage" to about 35,000 martyred jawans by removing Article 370 and Section 35A from Jammu and Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion of the 27th Foundation Day of the Rapid Action Force (RAF) in Ahmedabad, Shah also said that time has come to bring "permanent peace" in the Valley so that soldiers can enjoy Kashmir's scenic views instead of putting their lives in danger.

"The real homage to the about 35,000 martyred jawans has been given by our country's Prime Minister who removed 370 and 35A and initiated permanent and constant peace in Kashmir. The martyrdom of these jawans demand that we create a situation in Kashmir so that there is peace forever. So that no jawan would have to sacrifice his life anymore and instead is able to enjoy the scenic views of Kashmir," Shah said.

"For 70 years, no one dared to do this or bothered about it. This time, the people of this country gave the Prime Minister a strong mandate and in very first session, Narendra Modi ji has heralded a new era in Kashmir by removing 370 and 35A," he said.

## After encounter, forces conduct search in Batote

**Jammu:** Two days after three Hizbul Mujahideen militants were killed in an encounter in Batote town of Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, police and security forces on Monday launched a massive combing operation in the town.

This followed a complaint by one Darshna Devi that a youth in Army fatigue snatched her cell phone and fled into a field. She said in her complaint that the incident occurred about 100 m from her home. Police and Central Armed Police Forces personnel launched searches.



Home Minister Amit Shah at a Rapid Action Force ceremony in Ahmedabad. *Javed Raja*

"I wish to assure the people of Kashmir and the country that Kashmir will embark on the path to development, the path to peace. And, if anyone attempts to disturb Kashmir, our security forces will give them a befitting reply," Shah said.

Referring to the RAF, which was founded in 1992 under the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Shah said it has played a crucial role in ensuring that rioters don't get any opportunity to disturb peace. "Many times, a mob gets discouraged and flees when they get to know that the RAF is going to be deployed... In Ahmedabad and Puri, RAF played a big role in ensuring that the Jagannath Yatra is held in a safe manner every year," he said.

## BJP ready for BDC polls: Jitendra Singh

**Jammu:** A day after the State Election Commission announced J&K Block Development Council elections, Union Minister of State in the PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh, on Monday said the BJP was ready for it. "BJP as a party is always prepared for all sorts of elections whether BDC, Assembly or the Lok Sabha," Singh said, adding that "we do not interfere in the functioning of the EC".

**ENS**

# Kin of 2 'minors' challenge PSA order in HC

**ADIL AKHZER**  
SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30

THE FAMILY members of two more "minors" in Kashmir have approached the Jammu and Kashmir High Court in Srinagar challenging their detention under the Public Safety Act.

In the first case, a family from Baramulla district has approached the court with a habeas corpus petition seeking directions to quash the PSA detention order passed by the authorities. While the family members claim the detainee is a 16-year-old, Sopore Police have mentioned his age as 21 years.

"You are highly-motivated

stone-pelter of Sopore area. You are motivating gullible youth of Sopore and other adjoining areas for creating law and order problems..." reads the police dossier. Police have also cited an FIR filed in connection with a law and order incident.

According to the birth certificate, attached along with the petition and issued by a school on May 15, the date of birth of the detainee has been mentioned as "2.2.2003".

In the petition filed by his uncle, it has been submitted that the detention order is "prima facie arbitrary illegal and unconstitutional". "The detainee is prima facie a juvenile and has placed all

the relevant records in support thereof in the petition" and "he cannot be placed in custody in any jail which houses adult prisoners", the petition stated.

A single bench of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey issued a notice on September 20 and fixed October 18 as the next date of hearing.

In the second case, a family from Srinagar has approached the court with a habeas corpus petition, submitting that the detainee is prima facie a "juvenile", and terminating his detention "arbitrary, illegal and unconstitutional". A certificate issued by the J-K Board of School Education, attached with the petition, shows the de-

The bench headed by Justice Ramana will also hear a petition by child rights activists Enakshi Ganguly and Shanta Sinha challenging alleged detention of children in J&K.

Stating that the plea "raises issues beyond any individual", the court had on the last date of hearing asked the Juvenile Justice Committee of J&K High Court to enquire into it and submit a report. On Monday, CJI Gogoi said the court had received the committee's report and directed that it be given to the petitioners.

In his fresh plea, Tarigami has challenged the Centre's decision to revoke special status to J&K. His petition also raises the issue of alleged lockdown in J&K.



Azad at a press conference in New Delhi. *Anil Sharma*

ple were turned away. "Those who are saying there are no restrictions there... I am a living example... Despite the Supreme Court's order... I was not allowed to meet people freely... every person's face was captured on camera... the situation was the same in Anantnag... the surveillance was so much that when I was talking to people on the lawns... the conversation was being recorded... there also I was not allowed to visit 4-5 places," he said.

Azad said that during his visit he found out that business activity had come to a standstill in both the regions. "Every day, some 300 oil tankers used to leave Jammu... it has come down to 50 now..." he said, alleging that the government was "using local government" for repression.

## CBI transfers 200 officials

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE CBI has transferred more than 200 officials largely belonging to the lower rung of the agency's staff.

Sources said the transfers, effected in the last week, have been done for those who have been working with the same units or been located at one station for a very long time. Sources said some of these officials have been at one place for more than 10 years.

According to the orders passed by the administration department of the agency with concurrence of CBI Director R K Shukla, some 200 crime assistants, lower division clerks and upper division clerks have been transferred along with about a dozen sub-inspectors.

The agency has a sanctioned strength of over 7,000 personnel but works with over 4,000 ow-

ing to vacancies, sources said.

On August 21, 2019, Joint Director (admin) A K Bhatnagar had asked heads of various units to prepare a list of officials under them who have been posted at one place for a long time. In the letter, Bhatnagar had urged officials to stick to the transfer policy of "annual rotation" as keeping officers at one location creates discipline issues. The officers were asked to furnish three choices of postings, the letter said.

The development comes in the wake of CBI cadre officer N P Mishra shooting off letters to various authorities, including the Prime Minister, alleging that Bhatnagar was under investigation for fake encounters. The CBI officially denied the charge, saying no such findings had come up in its probe. Mishra's own transfer is pending due to litigation in the Delhi High Court.

CBI cadre officers have been opposing transfers carried out by CBI top brass.

## Cong slams EC move to reduce disqualification period of Tamang

**New Delhi:** The Congress on Monday alleged that the Election Commission's decision to reduce the disqualification period of Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang by almost five years has sent out a message - that one is "immunised from the law of the land" if one sings praises of the government.

Congress spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi pointed to Tamang's case, unconfirmed reports of the Home Ministry commuting the death sentence of Balwant Singh Rajoana, and the Chinmayanand rape case in Uttar Pradesh. "The running thread between these examples is the complete abuse of law... sending a clear message that you are immunised from the law of the land if you chant '*tusi great ho* (you are great)'," he said. **ENS**

## PARTIES REACT TO REPORT ON COMMUTING DEATH PENALTY TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

# No MHA confirmation on relief to Rajoana, political war of words

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 30

WHILE THERE was no official confirmation from the Union Home Ministry on commuting death sentence of former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh's assassin Balwant Singh Rajoana to life imprisonment, and sources in the ministry said the process is still on, political posturing has begun over reports that the BJP-led Union government's plans on such a move.

Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday distanced the state government from the issue, saying that the Congress party's stand on Beant Singh's killers had "always been clear and consistent — that they should serve their full sentence" — even as he said that he is personally against capital punish-

ment. His predecessor, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Parkash Singh Badal, meanwhile called it a "strong positive gesture" on the eve of 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak.

In New Delhi, Congress's chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala termed the development "painful and shameful".

State Congress president Sunil Jakhar called it a move by BJP to establish itself as a "separate entity" in Punjab by breaking free from the SAD.

Welcoming the reported move to commute Rajoana's death sentence and release eight other Sikh prisoners, Badal said the Centre's decision is "statesmanlike, far-sighted and humane".

In New Delhi, a Home Ministry official said the proposal to commute Rajoana's



Balwant Singh Rajoana

death sentence is "yet to be sent for the President's assent".

Amarinder, who was in Ludhiana, said his government had sent a list of 17 TADA prisoners held in Punjab for over 14 years, as required by the Centre, and is yet to receive names of nine prisoners whose the MHA had decided to grant remission.

Rajoana was in that list of 17,

## EXPLAINED Why remission case can be considered

RAJOANA'S CASE can be considered for premature release as any death row convict whose sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment is liable to undergo 14 years of actual sentence and six years of remission, as per Punjab's policy for premature release, according to jail officials. He is also entitled to benefits of parole as per law.

Rajoana has been in jail for nearly 24 years.

as he was a TADA prisoner who had completed more than 14 years in jail, Amarinder added.

A Punjab Police constable at the time, Rajoana was a "back-up suicide bomber" in the August 31, 1995 assassination of Beant Singh.

If effected, the remission

would make him eligible for parole for the first time in 24 years.

Congress MP from Ludhiana and Beant Singh's grandson Ravneet Singh Bittu reacted sharply at reports that Rajoana's death sentence could be commuted.

Slamming the reported

move, Bittu accused the BJP of doing petty politics to woo Sikh voters despite the Prime Minister vowing to fight terrorism on a global platform, PTI reported. "Who are they to commute the death sentence to life term when the Supreme Court has given capital punishment (to Rajoana)," Bittu said in Ludhiana. "He is a dreaded terrorist and should not be spared at any cost."

Jakhar said, "This is an open secret now that the BJP is trying to establish itself in Punjab as a separate entity to break free from the Akalis, and I think this is a step in that direction. They (BJP) are not bothered about Sikh sentiments... it is a well-thought-out political move to establish themselves in Punjab... We also apprehend all these could lead to some kind of resurgence in anti-Punjab activities..."

## Phone-tapping row: BJP leaders seek Kumaraswamy apology, he denies any role

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
BENGALURU, SEPTEMBER 30

A WAR of words has broken out between the ruling BJP and the Opposition JDS in Karnataka after an inquiry ordered by the state government found that the cellphone of the pontiff of Adichunchugiri Mutt, who is influential among the Vokkaliga community, was tapped when H D Kumaraswamy, also a Vokkaliga, was Chief Minister in the Congress-JDS government.

Some BJP leaders have sought an apology from Kumaraswamy who has claimed that his name has been "unnecessarily" linked to the tapping.

"The reports of the tapping of the phone of the Adichunchugiri Swami and the statements of political leaders has caused unbearable pain in my heart. Moreover, the anguish this has caused the Swamiji has only aggravated my pain," Kumaraswamy said on social media.

A probe ordered by the BJP government into the alleged tapping of phones of political leaders and others between August 2018 to August 2019 — when Kumaraswamy was chief minister — found that the phone of Nirmalananda Swami was tapped by the police. The probe has now been handed over to the CBI.

The name and number of the seer and an aide were listed for tapping among persons being investigated in a case of smuggling of red sanders. The tapping was allegedly done around the time of Lok Sabha elections.

The CBI is currently investigating several police officers in connection with the matter. While there is no direct link between the then chief minister and the alleged phone tapping, the investigation is looking at whose instance police were tapping the phones.

"Nirmalananda Swami has given me strength. He has given me shelter under his social programmes. He prayed for me to Kalabyreshwara. Is it possible for me to behave in a suspicious manner with him. Never," Kumaraswamy said on social media. "In this case my name is being taken unnecessarily."

Chief Minister Yediyurappa's son Vijayendra has demanded that Kumaraswamy apologise to the seer. "There is no match for Kumaraswamy when it comes to stooping low for selfish interests and power. He has not just tapped the phone of a seer respected all over the country but has committed an unforgivable offence by including his name among a list of smugglers. If he has any decency left, he should apologise to the guru," Vijayendra has said.

"They have tapped phones on a large scale and in an illegal manner. It is a cognizable offence. They will have to give answers and they must face justice for their actions. Let the whole community know about their actions," Deputy Chief Minister C N Ashwathnarayan, also from the Vokkaliga community, said.

## Phone-tapping row: BJP leaders seek Kumaraswamy apology, he denies any role

Punjab BJP president Shwail Malik said, "I do not want to speak on this. As of now, it is not clear to me... there are assumptions only until now. I will comment only when there is clarity."

Rajoana's March 31, 2012 hanging was stayed after the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) filed a mercy petition before the President on behalf of Rajoana, who never challenged his conviction. In 2010, the Punjab and Haryana High Court had commuted the death sentence awarded to another accused Jagtar Singh Hawara by a Chandigarh court after Hawara challenged the death penalty.

The SGPC's petition to the President had come days before Rajoana was to be hanged. It came on the orders of the Akal Takht.



Dhangar leader joins BJP, named Baramati candidate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, NAGPUR,  
SEPTEMBER 30

EVEN WITH the Maharashtra Assembly elections round the corner, desertions in Opposition parties continued, with leaders from the Congress, NCP and Vanchit Bahujan Aghadi (VBA) joining the BJP on Monday.

Among those who joined the BJP are Gopichand Padalkar from the VBA, Namita Mundada from the NCP, Gopaldas Agrawal and Kashiram Pawara from the Congress.

Immediately after joining the BJP, they were declared party candidates for the upcoming polls to be held on October 21. While Padalkar will contest from Baramati constituency, Mundada will contest from Kaig (Beed), Gopaldas Agrawal from Gondia and Pawara from Shirur seat.

Padalkar, who represents Dhangar (shepherd) community, was inducted in the BJP in the presence of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis in Mumbai.

"I declare Gopichand

Padalkar as the BJP candidate from Baramati. He is a fiery young leader. The BJP is confident of winning Baramati seat," Fadnavis said.

Senior NCP leader Ajit Pawar, who quit as the MLA on Friday, was representing the Baramati seat, which happens to be the home turf of Pawars. The Baramati Lok Sabha seat is represented by Supriya Sule, daughter of NCP chief Sharad Pawar.

The BJP wants to cash in Padalkar's hold in the Dhangar community — which has a sizeable vote share in Western Maharashtra and parts of Marathwada — in the upcoming polls.

"I decided to join the BJP as the CM has made sincere attempts to resolve the problems of the Dhangar community. The BJP has given Rs 1,000-crore package and 22 welfare schemes for the community," Padalkar said, adding that the chief minister was honestly pursuing the long pending demand of the Dhangar community to get reservation under Scheduled Tribe category. The matter is before the courts.

Aaditya to contest from Worli, first of Thackeray family in fray

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

SHIV SENA leader Aaditya Thackeray on Monday announced that he would contest the Assembly polls in Maharashtra from Worli constituency in Mumbai. The 29-year-old grandson of Shiv Sena founder late Bal Thackeray will become the first member of the Thackeray family to make a foray into electoral politics.

"I have always seen our Sena MPs, MLAs, corporators taking up several issues and I used to feel that I should work with them shoulder to shoulder. I have taken the permission from the party chief who is busy with the ticket distribution. So, if you local Shiv Sainiks and the local sitting legislator give me permission, then I seek the blessings of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, my grandparents and announce that I will contest the polls," Aaditya



Aaditya Thackeray in Mumbai on Monday. Ganesh Shirsekar

said while addressing a meeting of party workers at Lala Lajpat Rai college in Worli.

The announcement was met with huge applause and Sena leaders gave him a ceremonial sword. Sources in the Sena said



that Thackeray is expected to file his nomination papers on October 3.

Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray was not present during the announcement. Aaditya said his father was busy in the distribution of AB Forms to other party candidates. However, the Thackeray scion was joined by his mother Rashmi and younger brother Tejas at the event.

"Since childhood, I loved politics. Many Shiv Sainiks might have seen that I used to travel with my grandfather and father. Whenever my friends and others questioned me what else you can do apart from politics, I told them I can't do anything apart from politics," the 29-year-old said.

Since the Shiv Sena's found-

ing in the 1960s, no Thackeray family member has ever made a foray into electoral politics. So, the upcoming election points to a fundamental shift in the Shiv Sena's political thinking, which had so far insulated the Thackeray clan from playing a hands-on role in running governments.

"This is a historic step for me. As I am taking a big leap, I am not worried as all Shiv Sainiks are there with me," he said.

Shiv Sena leader Sanjay Raut said "the historic moment that Maharashtra has been waiting for" had arrived.

"While the Chandrayaan could not land on Moon due technical issues few days back, the Sena's Suryayaan will certainly land on the sixth floor of Mantralaya," said Raut, indicating that Aaditya would become the chief minister. "It is true that nobody from Thackeray family has contested the polls. But, sometimes rules need to be changed to make history."



PM Narendra Modi at IIT Madras on Monday. PTI

Modi: After US visit, realise world is looking at India with great expectations

In Chennai, PM praises Tamil language

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHENNAI, SEPTEMBER 30

STATING THAT the US media widely reported his praise of Tamil as the world's oldest language, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that after the visit he has "realised that the world is looking up to India with great expectations".

Modi's words, made during his visit to Chennai on Saturday to address two separate events, come days after Union Home Minister and BJP president Amit Shah's "request" that if people learn a second language they should learn Hindi, had kicked up a storm in Tamil Nadu, with opposition DMK alleging that the BJP-led Union government wants to impose the language on non-Hindi-speaking states.

Addressing people who received him at the Chennai airport, Modi said that he spoke in Tamil to the Indian community in the US and said that Tamil is the world's oldest language. "It was widely reported in all US media," he added.

He also said it is "our responsibility to make India a great nation and make sure that we meet expectations of the international community".

Addressing a gathering at Singapore-India Hackathon 2019, Modi hailed India's innovations and said the country is committed to create homegrown solutions for global applications. Stating that India is poised to be-

come a \$5-trillion economy and innovation and start-ups will play a crucial role in that, he said encouraging innovation and incubation is important, as there is a need for easy solutions to solve India's problems and make life easier for the people.

The event was held at the IIT Research Park, where the Prime Minister distributed awards for winners of the event. Over the last five years, he said, India has given a great emphasis on innovation and incubation. "India promotes the culture of innovation. Now we are giving exposure to modern technologies," he said.

Modi said encouraging incubation and innovation to find cost-effective solutions will benefit not only India but even the "poorest and most deprived people, no matter where they live".

He made a special mention of a particular research project of a camera technology that can detect who is paying attention in a room. Speaking in a lighter vein, the Prime Minister said he specially liked the idea since it may be useful for Parliamentarians — "I will talk to the Speaker (in Lok Sabha).. I am sure it will be very useful for him," he said, inviting laughter.

Addressing IIT-Madras students at the 56th convocation event later, Modi said he saw an optimism about "new India" during his meetings in the US recently. He told the students that they are graduating at a time when the entire world is looking at India as a land of unique opportunities.

Haryana: BJP releases first list of 78 names

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, SEPTEMBER 30

SEEKING TO retain power in Haryana, the BJP Monday released its first list of 78 candidates, including Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and international wrestlers Babita Phogat and Yogeshwar Dutt, while dropping eight sitting MLAs for the October 21 polls to the 90-member Assembly.

The BJP has named nine women and two Muslims in the list while rewarding at least six Indian National Lok Dal turncoats and the lone Shiromani Akali Dal MLA who joined the saffron party in the run up to state polls.

As per the list, Khattar has again been fielded from Karnal while two of his ministers, Vipul Goel (Faridabad) and Rao Narbir Singh (Badsahpur), have been denied tickets and replaced by Narender Gupta and Manish Yadav, respectively. State BJP chief Subhash Barala will also be re-contesting from Tohana.

Three international sports persons, who joined the BJP in recent weeks, will be making their electoral debut with party fielding Phogat from Dadri, Olympic



CM Khattar, and wrestlers Babita Phogat and Yogeshwar Dutt



medallist Dutt from Baroda and former Indian hockey captain Sandeep Singh from Pehowa, party national general secretary Arun Singh told reporters.

Another notable addition to the list is Aditya Devilal, the grandson of INLD founder and former deputy prime minister Devi Lal. Aditya has been fielded from Dabwali, the Chautala clan's bastion currently represented by Naina Chautala, the wife of former MP Ajay Singh Chautala.

Besides Khattar, six cabinet ministers will re-contest from their respective assembly constituencies. These include Capt

Balancing caste equations, BJP picks 17 Jats

Chandigarh: In its first list of 78 candidates for the Haryana Assembly polls, the BJP has fielded as many as 17 Jats in an attempt to balance caste equations in the caste-centric state politics.

In 2014 Assembly polls, the BJP had fielded 24 Jats for 90-member Assembly. The community makes up for about 25 per cent of the state population.

The party has again fielded all six Jats, who had won the 2014 Assembly polls, including Finance Minister Captain Abhimanyu (Narnaund), Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Om Prakash Dhankar (Badli) and BJP state chief Subhash Barala (Tohana). Rajya Sabha MP Birender Singh's wife, Prem Lata, has again been fielded from Uchana Kalan. The two others are Mahipal Dhandra from Panipat Rural and Sukhvinder Mandi from Badhra.

Haryana BJP spokesperson Raman Malik said that the party has given adequate representation to all communities. **ENS**

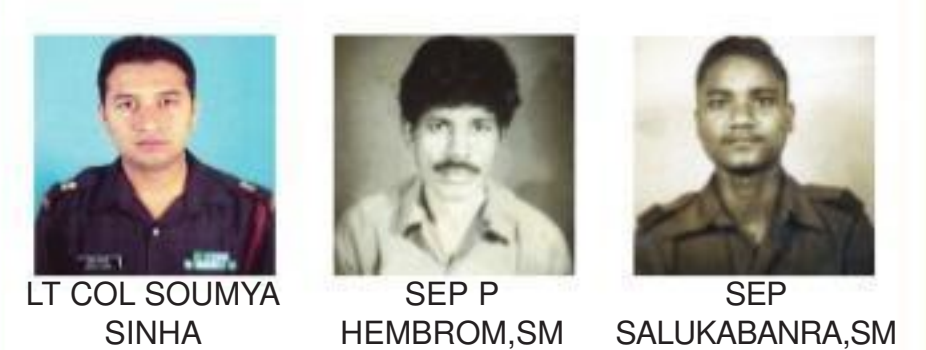
SALUTE THE SOLDIER

ON THE 59th RAISING DAY OF THE FOURTH BATTALION AND THE 56th RAISING DAY OF THE SIXTH BATTALION OF THE BIHAR REGIMENT, WE PAY HOMAGE TO THE VEEER BIHARIS WHO EMBRACED MARTYRDOM TO PROTECT THE NATION AND TO BRING GLORY TO THE REGIMENT



**OP PAWAN**  
Sub Numan Singh Biruli, Hav Bibhuti Narayan Roy, Hav Vikrama Singh, NK Rupan Singh, LNK Gopal Rai, Sep Gopal Jit Singh, Sep Braham Deo Singh Yadav, Sep Vijay Kumar Singh, Sep Lalan Prasad, Sep Basrupan Singh

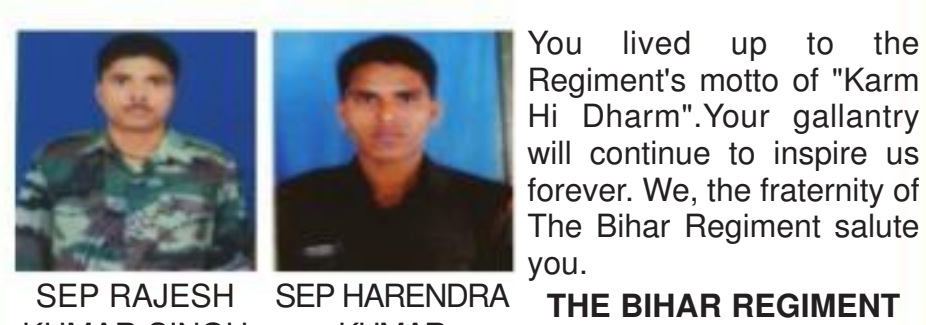
**OPRAKSHAK**  
Sub GhamaOraon, VRC, Nb Sub Jena Pingua, Hav Rudal Prasad, KC, Hav Rajesh Bara, Hav Injron Minj Nk Suren Tirkey, Sep Santosh Kumar Singh, Sep Etwa Kharia, Sep Sukhdev Kasiari, Sep Abhay Kumar, Sep Devi Dayal, Sep Rahul, SC



**INDO PAK WAR 1971**  
Nb Sub Gopa Bandhu Rout, Nk Rama Hari Mohanty, L/Nk Bishwa Nath Singh, Sep Justin Kisku, Sep Sama Nand Chaubey, Sep Kanta Prasad Singh, Sep Kameshwar Ram, Sep Sharama Nand Chaudhri, Sep Chathu Prasad, Sep Prabhudan Hembrom, Sep Dinba Purty, Sep Chamu Oraon, Sep Saluka Banra, SM, Sep Bhaskar Naik, Sep Amar Behera, Sep Sheo Pujan Singh, Sep Dambaru Sethi, Sep Abanindra Mishra, Sep Ramakant Mahakud, Sep Joseph Tigga, Sep Umesh Chandra Singh.

**OP MEGHDOOT**  
Hav Dinesh Prasad Singh, L/NkBrj Kishore Thakur, Sep Siya Sharan Prasad, Sep Surjeet Singh.

**OP RAKSHAK / OP RHINO**  
Hav Narendra Kumar Singh, Sep Ajay Kuamr Singh, Sep Ram Tirth Pandey, Sep Sanjay Kumar, Sep Bandi Bhagat.



You lived up to the Regiment's motto of "Karm Hi Dharm". Your gallantry will continue to inspire us forever. We, the fraternity of The Bihar Regiment salute you.

**THE BIHAR REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**

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Details are available under Tenders section on Bank's website: [www.bankofbaroda.in](http://www.bankofbaroda.in)

"Addendum", if any, shall be issued on Bank's website under tenders section. Bidder should refer the same before final submission of the proposal.

Last date of submission: 22.10.2019 up to 03:00 P.M.

sd/- (K B Gupta)  
General Manager & Head (FM, COA, DMS & Security)

Place - Mumbai  
Date - 01.10.2019

**EAST DELHI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER M - III  
SHAHADARA SOUTH ZONE, SCHOOL BLOCK, SHAKARPUR, DELHI-110092  
No. EDMC/E.E.- (M)-III/Shah. (S)/TC/2019-20/17 Dated: 27.09.2019

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

For online tendering at percentage rate tenders are invited for the execution of the following works by the EDMC from approved and eligible contractor and will be received as per time table.

Last Date of Download Tender : 10.10.19 at 12:00 Hours  
Last Date of Bid Preparation : 10.10.19 at 14:00 Hours  
Last Date for Close of Bid : 10.10.19 at 14:00 to 16:00 Hours  
Date of Re-encryption of Online : 11.10.19 at 15:00 Hours  
Opening of Financial Bid : 11.10.19 at 15:05 Hours

**S.No.: 1 Name of Work:** Improvement Development of Sanjay Drain wall from BI-11 extra Trilokpuri Culvert to Block 12 Trilok puri Culvert by pdg. B/W from in ward no. 02E/210 AC-55 Sh.(S) in East Trilokpuri., **Head of Account:** XL-VIII-S-(i), **Tender Amount:** Rs. 95,85,658/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,91,700/-, **Time of Completion:** 04 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-, **Tender No.:** 316511.

**S.No.: 2 Name of Work:** Improvement Development of lanes from main gate Gurudwara to Flat No. 526 Pkt.-V Mayur Vihar Phase-1 by pdg. RMC from in Ward No. 001-E/AC-56 in Mayur Vihar Phase-1., **Head of Account:** XL-VIII-S-(i), **Tender Amount:** Rs. 97,89,104/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,95,800/-, **Time of Completion:** 03 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-, **Tender No.:** 316512.

**S.No.: 3 Name of Work:** Improvement Development of lanes from Main Gate to DJB Reservoir, 8A/1 to 8A/341 and 8A/175 to 8A/445 in DDAB-8A Flats Trilokpuri by. pdg. RMC from in ward No. 02E/AC-55 in East Trilokpuri., **Head of Account:** XL-VIII-S-(i), **Tender Amount:** Rs. 73,39,041/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,46,800/-, **Time of Completion:** 03 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-, **Tender No.:** 316513.

**S.No.: 4 Name of Work:** Improvement Development of roads and lanes by pdg. RMC and drain in block-34 adjacent to H.No. 31,480,125,411,160,376,161,375,230,281, and 231 to 280 in Trilok puri in ward no. 003-E/AC-55/ Shah. (S) Zone., **Head of Account:** XL-VIII-S-(i), **Tender Amount:** Rs. 75,05,656/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 1,50,100/-, **Time of Completion:** 03 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 1000/-, **Tender No.:** 316514.

**S.No.: 5 Name of Work:** Improvement Development of side berm and drain from Flat No. 280 to 289,300 to 309,401, to 410,413 to 422,425 to 434,426 to 433,405 to 406 and 421 to 416 and along parks in Mayur Vihar Ph.-1 Pkt.II by pdg. B/W and RMC from in ward No. 01E/AC-55 in Mayur Vihar Ph.-1., **Head of Account:** XL-VIII-S-(i), **Tender Amount:** Rs. 2,14,91,629/-, **Earnest Money:** Rs. 4,29,850/-, **Time of Completion:** 04 Months, **Cost of Tender:** Rs. 2000/-, **Tender No.:** 316515

The demand draft for tenders cost & earnest money will be deposited in the office of S.E.-II-Shahdara (South), 3rd Floor, Zonal Office Building, Karkardooma, Delhi-110092

Rates are valid up to Six months. Detailed NIT can be seen from the following website or from the office of the undersigned.

<http://engineering.mcdetenders.com>, (WAP & SMS enabled tenders portal).

**Executive Engineer(M)-III Shahdara (South) Zone**

**RO No. 59/DPI/East/2019-20**

**EDMC's CITIZENS HELPLINE No. 155303**

Cong moves EC after BJP leader calls MP bypoll India-Pak contest

MILIND GHATWAI  
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 30

SENIOR MADHYA Pradesh BJP leader Gopal Bhargav on Monday tried to scale up the by-election to tribal-dominated Jhabua constituency by dubbing it a contest between "Hindustan and Pakistan", prompting ruling Congress in the state to move a petition in the Election Commission (EC).

"Yeh kisi do party ka chunav nahi balki Hindustan aur Pakistan ke beech mein chunav hai. Yeh hamare Bhanu (BJP candidate Bhanu Bhuria) Hindustan ka pratindhitva karte hai aur Kantilal Bhuria (Congress candidate) Pakistan ka pratindhitv karte hai (this is not a contest between two parties but one between Hindustan and Pakistan. Bhanu Bhuria represents Hindustan and Kantilal Bhuria represents Pakistan)," the BJP veteran said.

He asked the crowd to shout "Bharat Mata ki jai" to prove whether they are on the side of Hindustan or Pakistan.

Bhargava was speaking at a rally organised after Bhanu



Gopal Bhargav

**"This is not a contest between two parties but one between Hindustan and Pakistan. Bhanu Bhuria represents Hindustan and Kantilal Bhuria represents Pakistan."**

**GOPAL BHARGAV,**  
MP BJP LEADER

Bhuria, the young BJP candidate, who filed his nomination on the last day. His Congress rival, former Union minister Kantilal Bhuria, also filed his nomination on Monday.

Bhargava accused the

Congress of supporting Pakistan on all issues.

The ruling party called the statement violation of model code of conduct and approached the Election Commission with a plea to file a case against Bhargava for trying to whip up patriotic feelings to influence the election.

Chief Minister Kamal Nath's media coordinator Narendra Saluja accused the saffron party of trying to derail the discourse from main issues. He said Bhargava's Hindustan-Pakistan comment is an admission that the BJP did not do anything for the region in 15 years in power, and Jhabua lagged behind other places in all development indexes.

Quoting global poverty index of 2018, Saluja said Jhabua's neighbouring district, Alirajpur, was the most impoverished district and was compared with Sierra Leone in the report. The west African nation is one of the poorest countries of the world.

The Congress today took out a roadshow and organised a rally. Addressing the rally, Chief Minister Nath called the BJP a party of moneylenders.

Order on SC/ST Act: SC to deliver judgment on govt's plea today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday will deliver its judgement on the Centre's petition seeking a review of its March 20, 2018 judgment forbidding an arrest without prior permission for offences under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, calling it "against the spirit of the Constitution".

A bench comprising Justices Arun Mishra, M R Shah and B R Gavai had on September 18 reserved its order in the matter, even as it observed that the 2018 order was "against the spirit of the Constitution".

Taking serious note of instances of abuse of the Act by "vested interests" for political and personal reasons, a two-judge bench in the 2018 order had laid down stringent safeguards, including provision for anticipatory bail and vetting of complaint to determine if a case was made out before registration of FIR under the SC/ST Act.

NARADA CASE: MIRZA REMANDED IN 14-DAY JUDICIAL CUSTODY

Lack of video proof doesn't give Roy clean chit, says IPS officer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 30

REFUTING BJP leader Mukul Roy's claim that there was no video showing him accepting any money, arrested IPS officer S M H Mirza Monday stated that it doesn't give him a clean chit. The suspended IPS officer was talking to the media in Kolkata on his way to Bankshall court, which remanded Mirza in judicial custody till October 15 in the Narada tapes case. The CBI produced him in the special

court after his five-day custody with them got over on Monday.

"He is saying he was not captured taking money, but that doesn't prove that he didn't take money. That will only be clear during investigation. For that confrontation and reconstruction, both have been done. He said something, that doesn't prove anything. He was himself on phone," said Mirza.

On Sunday, the CBI took Mirza to Roy's Elgin Road residence in Kolkata, where an alleged transaction of money had taken place in 2014, for face-to-face question-

ing and reconstruction of events. The CBI said Mirza had confessed handing over money to Roy, then a TMC leader. The entire procedure was videographed.

Responding to Mirza's statement, BJP leader Roy said, "Whose money, what money and for what purpose did I take it, there should some clarity on that at least. With full responsibility and accountability, I repeat I was never a part of any exchange of money and am not into all this even today."

He reiterated it was a conspiracy against him.



# EXPRESS NETWORK

## ON GROUNDS OF PARITY

# HC grants bail to 2 more convicts in Gulberg case

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GUJARAT High Court on Monday granted regular bail to two convicts — Raju alias Mamo Kaniyo alias Ramavtar Tiwari and Dinesh Prabhudas Sharma — of the 2002 Gulberg massacre on grounds of parity, while five others of the total 11 sentenced to life imprisonment, were released on bail earlier.

A total of 24 people were convicted in the case by the sessions court in June 2016.

A division bench, headed by Justice Bela Trivedi, took note of the fact that the main perpetrator, as was observed by the sessions court, Narayan Sitaram Tank alias Naran Chenalwalo alias Naran Kodhiyo, was granted bail by a different division bench headed by Justice Harsha Devani in July.

Given the sessions court's observation that Narayan was involved in seven killings in the massacre, and was yet granted regular bail by the HC, Justice Trivedi said, "The present accused (Raju and Dinesh) are at a better footing than those already released."

released."

The court also noted that Narayan was released on bail after spending eight years and nine months in jail.

In the case of the applicants, they had spent more than nine years in jail. The court imposed a bail bond of Rs 25,000 and ordered that the two accused cannot move out of the state without the court's permission.

The bail plea was strongly opposed by Special Investigation Team (SIT) counsel R C Kodekar and the lawyer of victims Saira Sandhi and Rupa Mody, advocate Suhel Tirmizi.

The SIT submitted that a suggestion was made to the state to challenge Narayan's suspension of sentence at the apex court. Tirmizi too submitted, "Parity doesn't apply wherein some of the accused convicts were granted bail after spending 15 years (such as Kailash Dhobi) in jail. This would be nothing but nullifying the SIT (findings)."

The 24 accused persons were convicted by an Ahmedabad court in June 2016, following which they moved the High Court in August 2016, appealing against the conviction.

# Give Bilkis Bano job, compensation in two weeks: SC to Gujarat

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE SUPREME Court on Monday gave the Gujarat government two more weeks to comply with its direction to provide compensation of Rs 50 lakh, a job and accommodation to Bilkis Bano, who was gangraped during the 2002 post-Godhra communal riots.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi asked Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the state, why it had not complied with its April 23 order regarding compensation.

Mehta replied that the state was planning to file a review in view of the fact that the amount has not been mentioned in the victim compensation scheme.

The bench however, ordered that the state must comply with its direction within two weeks.

To which, Mehta said the order may be cited in other cases and requested the court to specify that it order was in keeping with the peculiar facts of the case.

The bench agreed to this and said so in the order.

On April 23, the top court had ordered the compensation for Bano saying, "It is very apparent that what should not have happened, has happened and the state has to give compensation."

It had given the state government two weeks to issue the



**Bilkis Bano**

compensation.

In March, Bano had declined to accept a compensation of Rs 5 lakh awarded by the state and had sought an enhancement.

A pregnant Bilkis Bano was gangraped on March 3, 2002 in Randhikpur village, while fleeing the riots that broke out in the aftermath of the Godhra train burning and fourteen members of her family were killed.

The trial court, while sentencing 11 persons to life imprisonment in the case on January 21, 2008, had acquitted five policemen and two government doctors. The convicts went in appeal to the High Court against the trial court order.

The HC order referred to the "laxity" and "failures" of the police in the registration and investigation of the case. It upheld the convictions and also set aside the acquittal of the five policemen, holding them guilty under sections 218 (public servant framing incorrect record with intent to save person from punishment) and section 201 (tampering with evidence) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

# Greenhouse gas emission, innovation top IPCC agenda

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

MORE THAN 200 experts from around 65 countries, including 12 scientists from India, are participating in a week-long consultative meeting of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which began in New Delhi on Monday.

India is hosting the Second Lead Author Meeting of the IPCC Working Group III Sixth Assessment Report, which will look at arriving at solutions to combat climate change.

The Sixth Assessment Report will examine topics like the link between consumption and behaviour and greenhouse gas emissions, and the role of innovation and technology. The report will assess the connection between short to medium-term actions and their compatibility with the long-term temperature goal in the Paris Agreement. It will assess

mitigation options in sectors such as energy, agriculture, forestry and land use, buildings, transport and industry.

Jim Skeea, co-chair of Working Group III, highlighted the role of the report, saying, "Building on previous Working Group III assessments, this report will emphasise what can be done in the near term to mitigate climate change, and how mitigation actions can be enabled through policy, institution-building and finance."

"Aspirations have been set out in the Paris Agreement and we will now be looking at what the collective reaction of the governments has been," said Skeea.

Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change Secretary CK Mishra said the IPCC authors and scientists are working to deliver the most relevant and up-to-date research on climate change mitigation.

"Global coalition on innovation and technology is the only way forward," Mishra said.



Among the 55 injured, four were extremely critical, officials said.

# 21 killed as bus overturns in Gujarat

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
AHMEDABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

AT LEAST 21 people died and 55 others were injured when a bus packed with devotees returning from Ambaji temple in Banaskantha district in North Gujarat turned turtle after losing control in the Danta taluka of the district.

Officials said that among the 55 injured, the condition of four is extremely critical. Passengers were trapped under the bus that overturned, they said.

The mishap took place around 4.15pm when the private luxury bus, with more than 70 passengers, lost control at a sharp turn at Trishulia Ghat, a hilly patch on the Ambaji-Danta road near Ambaji town of Banaskantha district, around 160km from here. The driver lost control over the vehicle due to heavy rain in the area, Banaskantha district SP Ajit Rajian said.

"Twenty one persons... died after the vehicle overturned at

Trishulia Ghat. The bus driver lost control due to heavy rain as the tyres slipped on the road when brakes were applied. We rescued 53 persons from the bus using a crane," he said.

"The injured persons were taken to Palampur Civil Hospital and a government hospital in Danta. The identities of the deceased are being ascertained," said a police officer in Banaskantha. Of the 55 injured, 42 were admitted to the Civil Hospital in Palampur.

"We have deployed more doctors at both the hospitals to treat the injured and carry out post-mortems. All the passengers were residents of Ankav village of Anand taluka and were returning after visiting Ambaji temple," said District Collector Sandip Sagale, who rushed to Danta hospital.

Speaking to *The Indian Express*, Dr PR Lodhani, chief district medical officer of Banaskantha, said, "All our medical staff and doctors are present at the civil hospital. We have also called all our specialist doctors

to deal with the complications in the injuries. Four persons, including a woman, are being shifted to Civil Hospital in Ahmedabad as they are in extremely critical condition."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took to Twitter to express his condolences. "Devastating news from Banaskantha. I am extremely pained by the loss of lives due to an accident. In this hour of grief, my thoughts are with the bereaved families. The local administration is providing all possible help to the injured. May they recover soon," he tweeted.

Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani said on Twitter, "Saddened by the loss of lives due to a road accident near Trisulia Ghat (On Danta road). Instructed officials to do needful. May those who have been injured recover at the earliest. I pray for the departed souls."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah who attended an event in Ahmedabad earlier in the day also took to Twitter to express condolences.

# Uttarakhand HC allows CBI to file FIR against ex-CM Rawat

**LALMANI VERMA**  
DEHRADUN, SEPTEMBER 30

THE UTTARAKHAND High Court on Monday allowed the CBI to file an FIR against former chief minister Harish Rawat in connection with a 2016 video that purportedly showed him negotiating a deal to buy the support of rebel MLAs.

A single bench of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia passed the order on Monday after the CBI placed a report of the preliminary inquiry before the court.

"The court has been informed that the preliminary inquiry has been completed and now the CBI wants to proceed further in the matter. In case the CBI wants to proceed further and register a First Information Report, this court will not come in its way, but it is made clear that there are larger issues here before this court, such as, the order of the Governor dated 31.03.2016, where the investigation was ordered to be done in the first place by the CBI, and the subsequent notification which followed on 02.04.2016, and then ultimately the Government on 15.05.2016 by which these orders, by which sanction was granted were withdrawn. The question here would be that when the Government itself had withdrawn its consent for the CBI inquiry... why did the



**Harish Rawat**

CBI continue... and the validity of this enquiry. What has also to be seen by this Court is the validity of the order dated 31.03.2016 read with subsequent notification dated 02.04.2016," the court order stated.

The court said that action taken after filing of FIR shall be subject to the decision in the petition filed by Rawat. He had filed a writ petition challenging the CBI notification initiating an inquiry on April 2, 2016.

The court will next hear the matter on November 1. Speaking to *The Indian Express*, CBI lawyer Sandeep Tandon said, "The court has read the report of preliminary inquiry and has not stopped CBI from registering the FIR..."

VBS Negi, a senior lawyer associated with Rawat's case, said, "But the court has also said that since petitioner Harish Rawat has challenged the validity of preliminary inquiry, then any action taken by CBI will not affect the petition filed by the petitioner. The court has also said that any action taken by the CBI subject to decision in writ petition."

## OBITUARY



Corps of Signals salutes its following Signallers who left us for their heavenly abode during the month of Sep 2019.

- 15396539K Hav Karande Kiran Sadashiv
- 15672634W Nk Venkatagiri Santosh Kumar
- 15710404P Nk Hemendra Rathore
- 15714194X LNK Dharmbir Singh
- 15721025Y Sigm N Rohit Kumar Singh
- 15725151H Sigm Ajith BS
- 15701064W Sigm Sanjeev Mullik
- 15745808W Sigm Gowtham S

On behalf of the Corps, we sincerely pray to Almighty for peace to departed souls & strength to the bereaved families to bear this irreparable loss.

**भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली**  
(संस्कृत संस्थान, विज्ञान संस्थान, भारत सरकार के अधीन)  
संस्था: 81, मोहन सिटी, बी.ओ. नवोदय, एम.ए.एच. नगर, मोहाली, पंजाब - 140306  
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI**  
(Established by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)  
Sector-81, Knowledge City, P.O. Manauli, S.A.S. Nagar Mohali, Punjab-140306

## PhD Admissions

Applications are invited from prospective candidates for admission to the PhD Program at IISER Mohali in the areas of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical Sciences, Earth & Environmental Sciences and Humanities & Social Sciences, for the session beginning in January 2020. Candidates interested in pursuing research in interdisciplinary areas are also encouraged to apply.

**Eligibility Criteria :** The applicant should have a Masters degree/ B.Tech/ MBBS/ M.Tech with a good academic record (at least a high second class) and should be GATE/ CSIR or UGC-NET/ JEST/ NBHM-JRF/GPAT/CMR-JRF/DBT-JRF/DBT-BINC/ICAR-NET/DST-INSPIRE qualified in the relevant subject.

**Application procedure :** Prospective candidates should apply online using the "Online Application Facility" by visiting the website at <http://www.iisermohali.ac.in> Short-listed candidates will be invited for a screening-test/interview at IISER Mohali.

**Last date :** The online application facility will be open till 12.00 noon, October 21, 2019. For further details about the program and research areas, please visit our website: <http://www.iisermohali.ac.in>

**INDIRA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH**  
(Deemed to be University)  
Gen.A.K.VaidyaMarg, Filmcity Road, Santosh Nagar, Goregaon (E), Mumbai - 400 065

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT OF FINANCE OFFICER

Advt.No. IGIDR/FA/2019-20 Date: 26.09.2019  
IGIDR invites applications from the Indian Nationals for filling up the vacant position of Finance Officer on tenure basis with all service benefits eligible for regular employees as follows:-

Sr. No.	Name of the post	Number of Post	Pay Level (7 <sup>th</sup> CPC)	Age	Tenure
1	Finance Officer	01	Level-14 Cell-1	Below 55 Yrs	05 Yrs.

For detailed information on Essentials & Desirable Qualifications/ Experience and to download the Application Form, candidates may please visit our website: <http://www.igidr.ac.in/careers/>. The completely filled Application in the prescribed format along with relevant supporting documents duly self-attested should be sent by registered post/speed post to The Registrar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai so as to reach by 15th November 2019.

**Note :- Candidates who had applied earlier need not apply again.**

**Jawahar Education Society's**

**A. C. PATIL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**  
Plot No. 17, Opp. Kharghar Railway Station, Sector - 4, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai - 410 210.  
Website: [www.acpcpe.org](http://www.acpcpe.org) • email: [principal@acpcpe.ac.in](mailto:principal@acpcpe.ac.in)  
Tel.: 91-22-2774 5721 / 22 / 23 / 24 • Fax: 91-22-2774 5732

## APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF PRINCIPAL

FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019-20

**UN-AIDED**

The above post is open to all, however candidates from any category can apply for the post.

Reservation for women will be as per University Circular No. BCC/16/74/1998 dated 10<sup>th</sup> March 1998. 4% reservation shall be for the persons with disability as per University Circular No. Special Cell/ICC/2019-20/05 dated 05<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Candidates having knowledge of Marathi will be preferred.

**The Educational Qualification, Experience & pay-scale for the post of Principal is as prescribed by the University of Mumbai, AICTE & DTE from time to time.**

Please refer the University Circular No. CONCOL/ICC/04 of 2012 dated 10/02/2012, for qualification and experience for the post.

Applicants who are already employed must send their application through proper channel. Applicants are required to account for breaks, if any in their academic career.

Application with full details should reach **PRESIDENT, JAWAHAR EDUCATION SOCIETY'S, A. C. PATIL COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING, Plot No. 17, Sector-04, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai-410 210** within 15 days from the date of publication of this advertisement. **This is University approved advertisement.**

# Held for rape and murder as minor, he now gets death for similar crime

**MILIND GHATWAI**  
BHOPAL, SEPTEMBER 30

A POCSO court in Indore sentenced to death a 22-year-old man on Monday for raping and murdering a four-and-half-year-old girl in 2018, five years after he committed a similar offence as a minor.

He was a minor when he was convicted of murdering a seven-year-old girl after raping her in Mandasaur in 2013. He spent the next three years in an observation home.

District Prosecution Officer, Indore, Mohammed Akram Shaikh told *The Indian Express* that the man moved to Indore after being released. For about five months, he lived with the family of a man who worked as a civic body staffer, Shaikh said.

On October 25, 2018, he was told to leave after he allegedly misbehaved with a woman in the family, said Shaikh. He later disappeared with the woman's four-and-half-year-old daughter.

The minor's body was found on October 27 near the banks of Khan river. An SIT was formed and the man was arrested when he was about to leave for Ratlam.

Meanwhile, another POCSO court in Vidisha sentenced to death another man Monday for raping and murdering a minor on October 25, 2015.

## Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

in the matter of O.A. No. 570/2019/DRT-III

CORPORATION BANK

vs Applicant

**MR. NITIN BANSAL**

**& Mrs. Mega Bansal** Defendants

To, D-1 Mr. Nitin Bansal & Mrs. Mega Bansal, R/o 4, Anand Vihar, Pitampura, New Delhi

D-2 M/s Alpine Realtech Pvt. Ltd., Office At: D-18, Sec-7, Noida (UP)-201301 through its Director Mr. Ramsingh S/o Sh. Rajball Singh, R/o D-171, Sector-49, Noida-201301

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 31-10-2019 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 19th day of Sept., 2019.

By Order of the Tribunal  
Assistant Registrar DRT-III, New Delhi

## Before Debts Recovery Tribunal-III, Delhi

4th Floor, Jeevan Tara Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001

Notice under section 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 read with Rule 12 & 13 of the Debts Recovery Tribunal (Procedure Rules) 1993

in the matter of O.A. No. 572/2019/DRT-III

CORPORATION BANK

vs Applicant

**Mr. Niraj & Mrs. Sangita**

**Kumari & Ors** Defendants

To, D-1 Mr. Niraj & Mrs. Sangita Kumari, R/o WZ 2 B, Near My Mother Optics Dayal Sir Road Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059

D-2 M/s Newtech La-Palacia Pvt. Ltd., regd. office unit no. 219, S/F Vasundhara Enclave, Plot No. 01, Vardhaman Sunrise Plaza LSC, Delhi-110096

Also At: Corp. Office H-190, Ground Floor, Sector-63, Noida, 201301 through its Director Mr. Mukesh Kumar Roy

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance in this Tribunal 31-10-2019 at 10.30 A.M.

Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the 19th day of Sept., 2019.

By Order of the Tribunal  
Assistant Registrar DRT-III, New Delhi



# IMD: Wettest monsoon in India in 25 yrs

ANJALI MARAR  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

THE RAINFALL during the south-west monsoon season, which ended on Monday, has been termed as “above normal” as the country experienced its wettest monsoon in 25 years, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).  
Rainfall during September this year was the second heaviest in 102 years, according to the IMD’s 2019 South west Monsoon Rainfall report, issued on Monday.  
The rainfall across India during June to September this year was recorded at 968 mm, taking the total rainfall to 110 per cent of the Long Period Average (LPA), which was last seen in 1994, according to the agency.

Meteorologists attributed this excess rain to the continuous low pressure systems that formed over the Bay of Bengal and traversed along the monsoon trough, bringing good spells of rainfall, mainly over central Indian regions. “The larger states like Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, along with Chhattisgarh, benefitted due to these systems, some of these that lasted for as long as even 10 days,” D Sivanand Pai, head of the IMD’s Climate Research and Services at Pune, told *The Indian Express*.  
Most states have received normal or above normal and some even recorded excess rainfall this season.

However, some states remained rainfall deficient, including Manipur (-56 per cent), Haryana (-42 per cent), Delhi (-35 per cent) and Jammu and Kashmir (-21 per cent).  
States that recorded excess rain were Madhya Pradesh (44 per cent), Gujarat (43 per cent), Maharashtra (23 per cent),

Karnataka (32 per cent) and Sikkim (22 per cent).  
The weakening of El Nino in early July helped the monsoon regain strength after a delayed onset and rainfall in June being 33 per cent short of normal.  
It was also for the first time since 1931 that the seasonal rainfall remained more than the LPA (88 cm), despite an over 30 per cent rainfall deficiency in June, the statement said.

Monsoon activity, which picked up during July and August, wiped off all existing deficiencies in most regions barring the Northeast. The cumulative rainfall recorded during August and September (130 per cent) this year was second highest after 1983 (142 per cent) for these two months.

While the Met department had in June forecast normal rainfall for this season, the total reaching the above normal category was due to large-scale intra-seasonal variability. “The positive phase of Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) during the second-half of the season coupled with the many low pressure systems formed in the Bay of Bengal brought this excess rainfall that took the total rainfall to above normal category,” Pai said.

The monsoon trough, this season, largely remained to the south of its normal position, that enhanced the rainfall activity over central, west and the south peninsular regions during the months of July and August. IMD officials also observed that the north-western regions remained on the warmer side in comparison to the southern region. “This difference in temperatures acted favourably in pulling monsoon winds landwards, keeping the monsoon active for most time of the season,” said AK Srivastava, head of the Climate Research Division at IMD.



Residents being evacuated from low-lying areas of Patna on Monday. *Nagendra Kumar Singh*

## 40 killed in rain-related incidents in Bihar, Patna still waterlogged

SANTOSH SINGH  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 30

AS PATNA and 12 other districts of Bihar continued to face a flood-like situation following heavy rainfall over the past couple of days, the state disaster management authority on Monday stated that 40 people have been killed in rain-related incidents in the last few days.

The state received 370 mm rainfall between Saturday morning and Monday morning.

Patna continued to remain waterlogged on Monday. However, there has been a let up in rainfall with the state capital receiving 91 mm of rain in the past 24 hours.

According to officials of the India Meteorological Department, seven districts in the state are expected to get nil to heavy rainfall in the next 24 hours.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday conducted an aerial survey of Patna and other affected areas and conducted a review meeting later.

Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Kumar Modi, renowned folk singer Sharda Sinha and Adil DGP (civil defence) Kundan Krishnan were among those rescued on Monday.

The Deputy Chief Minister was rescued by the Patna administration from his Rajinder Nagar house. He was seen wading through chest-deep water in the first floor of his house to get on an NDRF boat. He did not take questions from the media and left for his official residence.

Sinha and her family members were evacuated after the folk singer took to Facebook to appeal for help.  
Low-lying areas like Rajinder Nagar, Kankerbagh and Kumhrar are still waterlogged and most people are not ready to leave their homes for fear of theft. The state government on Monday arranged to air-drop food packets and medicines from two IAF helicopters in these areas. About 50 NDRF and SDRF teams are engaged in rescue work. At several places in the state capital, power lines are snapped and there is no water supply.

Awkash Kumar from Vishwakarma Nagar of Kumhrar said, “Thirteen members of my family are living in one room. After three days, I came out to buy food items and candles. We cannot leave the homes vacant as thieves are moving around. We cannot depend on the government. Two choppers cannot provide food to 10 lakh affected people in low-lying areas.”

Vinay Kumar, a psychiatrist who lives near Kankerbagh, said the situation is worse than the 1975 floods. Kankerbagh residents blamed Patna Municipal Corporation for not cleaning major nullahs. With the water level in the Ganga not receding much despite the opening of all gates of Farakka Barrage, the low-lying areas might remain waterlogged for a week.

Medical services have been affected at the state-run Nalanda Medical College and Hospital and over 50 private hospitals in Kankerbagh and Rajinder Nagar.

Over a dozen trains have been cancelled or rescheduled and the road to the airport remains waterlogged.

## Heavy rain lashes north India, 111 dead in UP

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

SEVERAL PARTS of Uttar Pradesh were on Monday reeling from floods following incessant showers over the past few days, with the death toll in rain-related incidents mounting to 111.

Since Thursday, 104 people have died in rain-related incidents, with the state government on Sunday cancelling leave of officials in view of the situation.

On September 26, 36 people died, 18 people on September 27, 28 on September 28, 18 people on September 29 and four on Monday, according to officials.

In Ballia, authorities had to shift about 900 prisoners to other jails after flood waters entered the barracks of the district jail located near the Ganga river. In Jharkhand, three members of a family died in Dumka district after a wall collapsed on them following heavy rains in the region.

Besides these states, as many as 13 deaths were reported on Saturday from Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Delhi may witness scattered rains over the next three to four days, according to the weather office. In Himachal Pradesh, light to moderate rainfall occurred in most places since Sunday evening, bringing the maximum temperature down by a few notches, the IMD said.

In Gujarat, three women drowned after their car was swept away at a flooded causeway in Rajkot district on Sunday.



In Ballia, 900 prisoners were shifted to other jails. *PTI*

## SHAHJAHANPUR

# Court rejects bail pleas of Chinmayanand and law student

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DISTRICT and Sessions court of Shahjahanpur on Monday rejected the bail applications of both former BJP minister Chinmayanand in the sexual assault case as well as the complainant, the 23-year-old law student arrested for allegedly trying to extort Rs 5 crore from the 72-year-old politician.

A lower court had earlier rejected the bail pleas of the two. “District and Sessions Court judge Ram Babu Sharma heard the bail applications of Chinmayanand and the student. The court rejected both the bail applications,” government counsel Anuj Kumar Singh said.

Based on a complaint filed by the student who studied in a law college run by a Trust led by Chinmayanand, the former Union minister was booked under IPC sections 376-C (sexual intercourse by a person in authority), 354-D (stalking), 342 (wrongful confinement) and 506 (criminal intimidation). Though the student had accused the former minister of raping her, he was not booked for rape.

Meanwhile, the SIT also booked the law student and three youths for alleged extor-

tion attempt based on a complaint filed by Chinmayanand’s lawyer. She has been booked under IPC sections 385 (putting a person in fear of injury in order to commit extortion), 506 (criminal intimidation), 34 (Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) and 201 (causing the disappearance of evidence of the offence, or giving false information to screen offender).

The two cases are being probed by the SIT formed by the state government on the direction of the Supreme Court and are running parallel.

“We will appeal against today’s judgment in the Allahabad High Court,” Chinmayanand’s lawyer Om Singh said. The family of the student said they would also move the High Court.

Meanwhile, Chinmayanand was discharged from the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute (SGPGI) in Lucknow where he was admitted on September 23 after he complained of chest pain. “The former minister has been sent back to Shahjahanpur jail from where he was brought to the SGPGI on September 23. On the same day, doctors at SGPGI conducted an angiography and no significant blockage was found,” said SGPGI’s Director Rakesh Kapoor.

## Cong workers held ahead of march in support of Shahjahanpur student

*Shahjahanpur:* Hours before the Congress’s Nyaya March in support of the 23-year-old law student who had accused former BJP minister Chinmayanand of rape and sexual assault, police here on Monday arrested about 80 Congress workers.

Congress leader and former Union minister Jitin Prasada was also detained before he could take part in the 180-km march from Shahjahanpur to Lucknow.

SP (Shahjahanpur City) Dinesh Tripathi said Congress workers were holding a meeting in front of the party office at a time when prohibitory orders were promulgated in the city. “They had not taken any permission from the administration. After arrest, they have been taken to Police Lines,” Tripathi said.

But the Congress accused the BJP government and its police of blocking the march. **PTI**

**Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam Limited (PuVVNL)** (A subsidiary of UP Power Corporation limited) Purvanchal Vidyut Bhavan, Vidyut Nagar, P.O.- D.L.W., Varanasi- 221004 Website: <http://www.etender.up.nic.in>

**Tender Date Extension** The date of submission & opening of e-tender no., EAV-124, 145, 146/18-19 & EAV-06, 07, 08, 09, 10/19-20 is here by extended up to **14.10.19 (15:00 PM)** & **15.10.19 (15:00 PM)** respectively. Further details can be seen at website **[www.etender.up.nic.in](http://www.etender.up.nic.in)** Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Sd/ (Rajesh Kumar) Superintending Engineer (MM-I) “SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION” पत्रांक: 2795/ पू.वि.वि.नि.लि.(वा.)/सा.प्र./अअ-1/विज्ञापन दिनांक: 30.09.2019

## GANDHI BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

# No ban on single-use plastic, govt aims to sensitise public

ESHA ROY  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE GOVERNMENT does not propose a blanket ban on single-use plastic on October 2 and instead prefers a phased reduction in the use of plastic products, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change C K Mishra said on Monday. He added that what the government proposes is launch of a “mass movement to sensitise the public against the use of plastic”.

“We will also start talking to industries and start exploring alternatives to plastic use. Industry has already committed research on alternative eco-friendly material for manufacture of their products as a part of their

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR). As a part of this mass movement, which will be a part of the Swachh Bharat mission programme, villages and gram panchayat as well as municipalities will collect plastic waste and deposit it at one designated location. The eventual goal is that plastic waste is not dumped on land or water but recycled,” said Mishra.

Single-use plastics, also referred to as disposable plastics, are commonly used for packaging and include items intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled.

Under the Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016, all producers that use plastic packaging for their products are required to collect back an equal amount of plastic waste under the EPR framework.

## Govt to consolidate buildings around Sabarmati Ashram

PARIMAL DABHI  
GANDHINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30

THE CENTRAL and state governments are planning a consolidation of around 63 historical buildings related to Mahatma Gandhi around Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad and turning them into a “world class memorial” to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhi.

A declaration on the same is likely on October 2 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to attend a public function at Sabarmati Riverfront.

Kartikeya Sarabhai, trustee of Sabarmati Ashram Preservation and Memorial Trust (SAPMT), said details are yet to be worked out on the project but an initiative has been taken.

According to Sarabhai, at present, visitors tour only an area of around 3-4 acres, housing the Hriday Kunj and the museums, where as the actual area spreads around 30 acres, housing around 63 historical buildings related to Gandhi.

The Sabarmati Ashram precincts, which was earlier called the Satyagraha Ashram, had 120 acres and 28 gunthas of land till 1951. It was then divided into five trusts. “(So) the idea is that the Ashram area should be a bigger experience for the visitor by consolidating the different properties... Some land (also) has to be readjusted. Details are yet to be worked out,” said Sarabhai.

# UP: Congress, SP to boycott marathon Assembly session

MAULSHREE SETH  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

EVEN AS the state government is aiming at setting a record by holding a special two day session of the Legislative Assembly round-the-clock to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, on October 2, the main opposition parties, including the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Congress have decided to boycott the special session.

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), however, has not made its stand clear yet. Senior party leaders said no instructions had been issued to attend the session. Several also cited personal engagements.

While the Congress has made it clear that none of its legislators would attend the session, the SP said its MLAs would be busy with the party’s own event on October 2.

“When they (state government) are adamant on killing

democracy, what kind of discussion do they plan to have in the name of Mahatma Gandhi? There is no law and order in the state, there is no employment and the government is unable to do much about it,” claimed Congress Legislative Party leader Ajay Kumar Lallu.

He added, “We will not attend the session just to become part of some record making. There are more pressing issues in the state that should be addressed but the government is not allowing any space for anyone to raise their voice. So what is the point of attending the session?”

The Congress has announced a “peace march” from Shaheed Smarak to Gandhi statue near GPO in Lucknow on October 2 to mark Gandhi Jayanti and senior leaders have been asked to participate in it.

Meanwhile, a senior legislator of SP, who did not wish to be named, said, “In fact, we were the first to organise our own event, a bhajan programme, to mark Gandhi Jayanti at Gandhi Pratima

in Lucknow. Our party chief, Akhilesh Yadav, will participate, along with all our party MLAs and MLCs. Moreover, we also fail to understand the actual motive of the exercise, (two-day Assembly session) where more than about Mahatma Gandhi, the government will be speaking about its own schemes and initiatives.”

SP spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said, “Our party is organising its own event to mark Gandhi Jayanti, which would be led by Akhilesh ji. All the party legislators along with senior leaders will be present there.”

While the Bahujan Samaj Party is yet to make any announcement, sources said that many of its leaders are likely to be absent at the two-day session. “I will be busy with the ongoing by-poll campaign and will not be able to attend the Assembly session,” BSP leader Lalji Verma said.

BSP leader and MLA Sukhdev Rajbhar, said, “We will all be in Lucknow on Tuesday for a party meeting, where it will become clear.”

# Lucknow: 10 lakh students to read for 45 mins for world record

AVANEESH MISHRA  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

TO SET a new “world record”, more than 10 lakh students from schools and colleges will simultane-

ously read books in Lucknow for 45 minutes on Tuesday as part of ‘Padhe Lucknow, Badhe Lucknow’ campaign initiated by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel.

Coordinated by Lucknow University (LU), the event will include students from Class 6 onwards. They will read books, preferably on Mahatma Gandhi or the freedom struggle in their classrooms from 11 am to 11.45 am on Tuesday.

More than 2,500 educational institutes in Lucknow — colleges affiliated to LU, AKTU, Dr Shakuntala Mishra University, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University and the KGMU, and all the schools under the Basic Education, Secondary Education, Madrasa and Ashram boards and Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan — are part of the campaign. Five teams of the “World Book of Records” have arrived in Lucknow and will monitor the event, officials said.

“We have counted all the students and the number reaches to around 10.34 lakh. All the students will read books in their respective classrooms and libraries of their schools and colleges from 11 am to 11.45 am,” said Professor N K Pandey, spokesperson,

Lucknow University. “Teachers and school and college staff will also take part in the reading. For monitoring and counting, two photographs and a 30-second video from each classroom will be uploaded on the LU portal. Five teams of the World Book of Records can randomly inspect any of the school or college randomly. By around 2 pm, we are expecting all the photos and videos to be uploaded, and by evening all the data will be compiled and released,” said Pandey.

An LU official said that the students’ participation was not mandatory and that they had been asked to read books on Mahatma Gandhi or the freedom struggle to honour the 150th birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation next day.

“If not available, students can read any book, except their syllabus books. The books will either be provided by the institution or students can bring their own,” the LU official said.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**TENDER NOTICE (through e-tendering)**

S. No.	Name of work with its location	App. Cost of the work (In Rs.)	Tender inviting Officer Address	Tender Document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest Money to be deposited (in Rs.)
1.	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Station make 20 Nos. IPS at JNC, RH-8, RH-9, RH-10, SLKN, GNM, SMK, RH-23, RSH-24, RH-25, MUD, PH, lodi colony, PH Naraina Vihar, NGI DBD, Delhi, K-579 A, PNP, TKD, & Bhamewa of Delhi Division for Three (03) years.	Rs. 62,28,092/- only	Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer/C, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055.	Rs. 5,900/- only	Rs. 1,24,600.00 only

**Date & Time for closure of tender :** Tender uploaded date & time- 23.10.2019 up to 15.00 hrs. **Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc. :** See the N.R.ly. website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) & Notice board at S&T branch 3rd Floor, DRM office, State entry road, New Delhi-110055. **Tender No. 558-Sig/16/M/Tender/AMC/044/2019-20** Dated : 30.09.2019. 3154/19

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**KERALA CASHEW BOARD LIMITED (KCB Ltd)**  
T.C-29/4016, Women's College-Bakery Junction Road  
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Phone No: +91 471 4252855, 4852855 email: [kcb@keralacashewboard.com](mailto:kcb@keralacashewboard.com)  
Web: [www.keralacashewboard.com](http://www.keralacashewboard.com)

No: KCB/11/616/2019/IDN **e-Tender Notice** Date: 28.09.2019

Kerala Cashew Board Limited invites e-tenders through e-procurement portal for import of 2000-3000 Metric Tonnes of quality **Dried Cashew Nut of 2019 crop of Indonesia origin.** (Tender Id: 2019\_KCBL\_304271\_1)

**Last date for submission and uploading e-tenders : 1700 hours on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**Opening of e-tender : 1100 hours on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
All details can be viewed, downloaded and applied through the e-procurement portal [www.etenders.kerala.gov.in](http://www.etenders.kerala.gov.in)

**CHAIRMAN & MANAGING DIRECTOR**

**TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS :: TIRUPATI CHITTOOR DIST, ANDHRA PRADESH**  
**Kaifan of the Chief Engineer, TTD, Tirupati**  
**'e'-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

Adv No:11/D3/CE/TTD/2019-20

S. No.	NIT No.	Name of the work	Estimate Amount Rs. in Lakhs & Time for completion	Schedule Download strat date	Down load end date & last date for bid submission
1.	167/SE-III/TTD/2019-20	Expression of Interest for disposal of Dry waste generated from Tirumala	EOI OFF LINE TENDER 5.00PM & 15 Years	03-10-2019	21-10-2019 1.00PM & 3.00PM

**For NIT No:167/SE-III/TTD/2019-20 ECI document can be downloaded from TTD Website ([www.tirumala.org](http://www.tirumala.org)) and also can be purchased at 0/- SE-II, TTD, Tirupati from 03-10-2019. 5.00 PM to 1.00 PM 1ST during office hours and shall be Deposited in Tender box kept in 0/- SE-II, TTD, Tirupati on or before 21-10-2019 by 3.00 PM IST.**

S. No.	NIT No.	Name of the work	Estimate Amount Rs. in Lakhs & Time for completion	Schedule Download strat date	Down load end date & last date for bid submission
2.	99/IEC/TTD/2019-20	Providing of Centralised AC system to Sri Padmrhvat Kalyanamandapam Block No.1 to 3 (1,2,3) and Sr Srinivasa Kalyanamandapam Block No.1 to 4 (1,2,3 & 4) in ESD-PAT, Tirupati.	Open Tender 6 Months	30-09-2019 5.00PM	16-10-2019 1.00PM & 3.00PM

**Note: For full details log on to the website <https://tender.apecprocurement.gov.in> or <http://www.apecprocurement.gov.in/>**  
Roc.No:PR4/13910/ADV.No:258/PRO/2019, Dt:30-09-2019 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU**  
**VELLORE CORPORATION**  
Corporation Office, Vellore

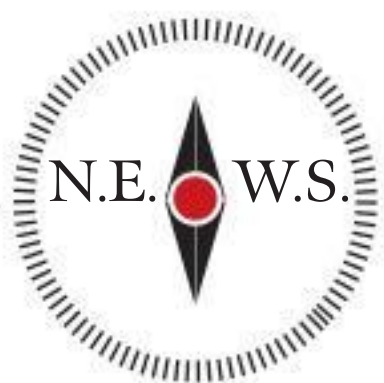
Roc.No.6209/2015/E1 **OPEN TENDER NOTICE** Date : 30.09.2019

The Commissioner, Vellore Corporation / Managing Director, Vellore Smart City Limited, invites tenders in two cover system for the following works as per the conditions laid down in the tender notice published in website <https://tntenders.gov.in>.

Sl. No.	Details of Work for which Tender is called	Value put the Tender Rs. in Lakhs
1.	Name of the Work	Bus Terminal Development, Public Transport Improvement and Transit Hub with State of Art Amenities in Vellore City Municipal Corporation.
2.	Pre-Bid Conference	Sl.No.1 - 21.10.2019 at 11.00 AM
3.	Date of Tender	06.11.2019 Wednesday 3.00 PM
4.	Date, Time and Venue of opening	06.11.2019 Wednesday 3.30 PM at Vellore Corporation Office
5.	Tender document availability and other details	Other Details can be obtained from the tender notice published in website <a href="https://tntenders.gov.in">https://tntenders.gov.in</a> or from Vellore Corporation Office, Engineering section during working hours on all working days.

**For contact : 0416 - 2220578** **Commissioner, Vellore City Municipal Corporation / Managing Director, Vellore Smart City Limited**  
DIPR/ 3428 /TENDER/2019





NORTH

Hungarian man goes missing during trek in Uttarakhand

**Dehradun:** A Hungarian national, Peter Wittek (37), has reportedly gone missing during a trekking tour of the Trishul mountain in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, officials said on Monday. The administration has dispatched rescue teams of the NDRF and Forest department to search for Wittek. It is suspected that Wittek went missing during an avalanche on Sunday. According to the information the district administration received from the tour operator, that group had started trekking from Sutol about four days ago. The other five members include four from Singapore and one from Mauritius. **ENS**



Members of the Jewish community at the Succath Shelomo Synagogue in Pune on the occasion of Rosh Hashanah on Monday. *Ashish Kale*

EAST

BrahMos’s land-attack version successfully test-fired

**Balalore:** India on Monday successfully test-fired the land-attack version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from a base at Chandipur in Odisha’s Balalore district. The state-of-the-art missile, with a strike range of 290 km, was jointly launched by DRDO and BrahMos Aerospace from Balalore’s Integrated Test Range, a statement said. The test, conducted at 10.20 am, met all flight parameters, the statement said. “...the indigenous content in the formidable weapon has reached a high value, thus bolstering India’s defence indigenisation and the ‘Make in India’ programme,” it said. **PTI**

WEST

Maharashtra minister’s car hits motorcycle, rider killed

**Pune:** A 45-year-old man was killed after an SUV, belonging to Maharashtra minister Tanaji Sawant, hit his two-wheeler in Solapur district on Monday, police said. The incident took place around 8.30 am on a state highway intersection, some 220 km from Pune, an official from Barshi police station said. Sawant, a Shiv Sena MLC and the state water conservation minister, was not in the vehicle at the time of the accident, he said, adding that its occupants comprised driver Anuradh Surwase (28) and one more person. “The victim, identified as Shyam Hole, was trying to go to the other side of the road on his motorcycle when he was hit by the SUV,” police said. **PTI**

SOUTH

Family suicide pact: Woman’s body recovered, pet dog saved

**Mangaluru:** The body of the woman who jumped into the Nethravathi river with her mother, brother and pet dog was recovered early Monday while the dog has been saved even as search was on to trace the brother’s body, police said. Unable to bear the death of her husband Kishan (65) on Saturday, Kavita Mandanna (55), her son Kaushik (30) and daughter Kalpita (20) entered into a suicide pact, the police said. Before Kishan’s funeral on Sunday, the family went to the bridge across Nethravathi and jumped into the river. Kavita was saved but she died on the way to hospital, while Kalpita’s body was recovered Monday. **PTI**

Lucknow SSP forms team to monitor probe against Ansal API

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 30

A DAY after real estate giant Ansal API’s vice-chairman Pranav Ansal was arrested by Lucknow Police in Delhi, a nine-member special monitoring team headed by an IPS officer was formed on Monday to monitor the cases registered against the company here.

A total of 24 cases have been lodged at Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, PGI and Hazratganj police stations in Lucknow against Ansal API chairman Sushil Ansal — still absconding —, his son Pranav and others for allegedly cheating flat-buyers and diverting money.

Thirteen of these cases would be re-investigated and evidence was being collected in the rest, said SP (North) Sukriti Madhav, the IPS officer who is heading the team formed by the Lucknow SSP. “Among the Lucknow cases, some are fresh and re-investigation has been ordered in the rest. Several complaints are being filed



Pranav Ansal

and new cases registered. All the investigating officers of their respective cases will be monitored by this team,” he said. Pranav was nabbed at Delhi airport while he was trying to board a flight to London. A lookout circular was issued against him in July on the basis of an FIR under charges of cheating, forgery and criminal intimidation, among others.

The monitoring team includes Gomti Nagar and Hazratganj circle officers, joint director (prosecution), and additional SHOs (crime) of Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, PGI, Hazratganj and Gosaiganj police stations.



SIGNING IN

**Air Marshal R K S Bhadauria takes charge as chief of Indian Air Force, succeeding Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, in Delhi on Monday. Bhadauria said IAF is monitoring developments along the western front and is ready to deal with any situation. He also said the procurement of 36 Rafale jets will give IAF enhanced prowess over the country’s “adversaries”. PTI**

GOVT ANNOUNCEMENT OF STOCK LIMITS ON ONION

Nashik traders say move impractical, stage protest

PARTHA SARATHI BISWAS  
PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

ONION TRADERS in Nashik staged a protest on Monday against the Centre’s announcement of a stock limit for onions. They termed the move “impractical” and threatened to boycott the auction of onions if action was taken against them for violating the stock limits.

With less than a month to go for state elections in Maharashtra and Haryana, the Centre on Sunday decided to ban the export of onions in a bid to control the retail price hike across the country. Union Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Ram Vilas Paswan also announced a stock limit for onions, prescribing a limit of 500 quintals for wholesale and 100 quintals for retail traders per day till November 30. The minister also asked state governments to take action against traders found violating this limit.

Prior to this, the Centre had slapped a steep Minimum Export Price (MEP) of \$850 per tonne to stem exports so that the prices dip in wholesale and retail markets.

On Monday, trade in most wholesale markets in Maharashtra remained suspended as traders and farmers from various parts of Nashik and Pune took to the streets to protest against the stock limits. Several traders gathered at Chandwad in Nashik to discuss the fallout of the measure. Trade resumed in the second half,



Farmer leaders and onion growers stage a protest against the ban on onion export, at Satana in Nashik Monday. *PTI*

but remained slow, sources said. Sohanlal Bhandari, president of Nashik onion traders’ association, said, “Once onion is procured from wholesale markets, it has to be sorted and graded before it can be sent across. This process takes two to three days. This notification would virtually dry up the trade as traders would have to dispose of their stocks before they can buy more,” he said.

Several other traders told *The Indian Express* that in every market, there were four to five traders who control the trade and buy in bulk. “If such traders stop buying, what will the market committees do if the whole arrival from farmers is not sold?” they said.

Traders also pointed out that at the present rates, hoarding did not make sense. They claimed that while the government yields the stick for traders oper-

ating out of the wholesale markets, there was little or no mechanism to control the prices at the retail end.

Bhandari, who led a delegation of traders to meet the Nashik Collector, said they have asked for a reconsideration on the stock limit. “We are ready to submit daily reports of procurement and sales of onion, but action should be initiated only if the trader fails to dispose of the onion within seven days of purchase. If any action is taken before that, we will boycott auction in the wholesale markets,” he said.

Onion prices in wholesale markets of Nashik had crossed Rs 3,500 per quintal, while in the major cities, the bulb is trading at Rs 60-80 per kg. A dip in production in the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka has led to the spike in its price.

Hours after accusing Rabri, Misa of domestic abuse, Tej Pratap’s wife back to former CM home

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
PATNA, SEPTEMBER 30

AISHWARYA RAI, wife of former Bihar health minister Tej Pratap Yadav, returned to the residence of her mother-in-law and former CM Rabri Devi hours after making allegations of domestic violence against her and Tej Pratap’s eldest sister and Rajya Sabha MP Misa

Bharati. No police case had been registered in the absence of a written complaint.

A family court in Patna has been hearing Tej Pratap’s divorce plea. Tej and Aishwarya, daughter of former minister Chandrika Rai and granddaughter of former Bihar CM Daroga Rai, married in November 2018.

Aishwarya had alleged before the media on Sunday that

her in-laws “had not been giving her food since June and she was getting food from her parents in Patna”. She had also accused Rabri and Misa of “misbehaving with her”.

“When I was trying to make a video of the house, a guard snatched my phone”, she said, adding that she had no complaints against her husband and her brother-in-law and Leader of Opposition Tejashwi Prasad

NH 766 STRETCH PASSING THROUGH FOREST AREA

SC proposal intensifies protests over traffic ban

SHAJU PHILIP  
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, SEPTEMBER 30

MASS PROTESTS have flared up across Wayanad district in Kerala with people demanding lifting of a traffic ban at night on the forest stretch of Kozhikode-Mysuru-Kollegal national highway 766, which cuts through Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka and is one of the three major corridors linking Kerala with the rest of the country.

It has been a decade since the ban came into effect but protests intensified last Wednesday after the Supreme Court earlier this month asked the Union Ministry of Forest, Environment and Climate Change to suggest alternative routes so that the NH 766 could be closed forever.

The court’s suggestion for a complete ban on traffic on the forest stretch of NH 766, which is the lifeline of Wayanad district, has triggered an indefinite relay fast at Sulthan Bathery town in Wayanad, where Congress, BJP and CPM supporters have shared the protest venue that is thronged by hundreds every day. On Monday, farmers joined in with a long march to Karnataka border, demanding that the ban be lifted.

Kerala Transport Minister and NCP leader A K Saseendran said the state government wants the ban to be lifted. “We want that the night traffic be restored with some regulations. The Union government has rejected our proposal for elevated highway through the tiger reserve. The SC suggestion for closing down the highway would only aggravate the situation. People of two states are deprived of their right to mobility. In the country, no other highway passing through forest is closed for traffic in such a manner. Why the trouble in Kerala alone,” he said.

BJP MLA C S Niranjan Kumar, who represents neighbouring Gundlupet in Karnataka, extend-



EXPLAINED Why it affects Wayanad

THE TRAFFIC ban at night has affected inter-state movement of provisions and crippled Wayanad’s tourism industry, which mainly depends on travellers from Bengaluru, Bengaluru and Mysuru-bound vehicles from Wayanad and other parts of north Kerala now take a lengthy alternative route. The restrictions came as a double whammy for Kerala as another inter-state highway cutting across the elephant corridor in Nagarhole Rajiv Gandhi National Park had been closed for traffic in the night in 2008.

ed support to the agitation and addressed the protest in Bhatery.

Congress legislator I C Balakrishnan, who represents Sulthan Bathery, said all political parties, traders, religious organisations and youth outfits have come together on the issue. “It is a matter of life and death for Wayanad. The life and development of Wayanad have already been hit by the night

traffic ban... We don’t have alternative routes for this highway. Its closure means death knell for Wayanad,” he said, adding that the Supreme Court will hear the matter on October 14.

On Sunday, Congress leader and Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi tweeted, “I stand in solidarity with the youth on an indefinite hunger strike since September 25th protesting against the daily 9 hour traffic ban on NH-766 that has caused immense hardship to lakhs of people in Kerala and Karnataka.”

D Rajkumar, managing trustee of Mysuru-based Wildlife Conservation Foundation, which is among the petitioners in Supreme Court, said the highway’s closure would help wildlife. “The previous Congress government in Karnataka supported the ban, which is a must to ensure safety of animals. Wild animals move to and fro between Bandipur reserve and the adjacent Wayanad wildlife sanctuary. Traffic along the highway has increased manifold over the years. At night, we have noticed that all types of animals move very close to the road. If the highway is opened again for traffic during the night, animals would be exposed to danger,” Rajkumar said.

The traffic ban at night was first imposed by the Chamarajanagar district administration in Karnataka in 2009. It was also slapped along the Bandipur-Mudumalai forest stretch of the Mysuru-Ooty road.

The ban was upheld by the Karnataka High Court and later by the Supreme Court. Acting on PILs, the apex court on August 7 ordered that the ban would continue and asked the Centre to come up with a permanent solution to avoid traffic through the tiger reserve, giving the government a month to submit suggestions.

Bandipur Tiger Reserve, spread over 1,400 sq km, was established in 1973 as part of Project Tiger and declared a core critical tiger habitat in 2007.

Aarey petitioner to HC: BMC commissioner said project must pass before poll code kicks in

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE PETITIONER challenging the proposed Metro carshed at Aarey Milk Colony Monday told Bombay High Court that the BMC commissioner had observed that the proposal needed to be passed before the model code of conduct for Assembly polls came into effect.

The court was hearing a PIL by activist Zoru Bhathena, challenging decision of the Tree Authority to cut 2,646 trees. The plea said the August 29 resolution for the removal of the trees is a “brazen breach” of a High Court order in July. The order had said the opinions of expert members must be valued and should become an essential facet of decision-making. The final decision must also include the reason if objections by experts are ignored, the order said.

Arguing for Bhathena, Janak Dwarkadas told the court that one of the observations by BMC commissioner to pass the proposal soon was that the code of conduct would come in force. “You’re not deciding on 2-3 trees, it is about 3,000 trees and there is no relevance of code of conduct...” Dwarkadas said.



Andhra Pradesh CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy hands over appointment letter to a candidate in Vijayawada Monday. *PTI*

Jagan: Village, ward secretariats to start functioning on Oct 2

SREENIVAS JANYALA  
HYDERABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

ANDHRA PRADESH Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy on Monday said village and ward secretariats aimed at decentralising administration and ensuring better delivery of government schemes and services will start functioning in the state from October 2.

An idea floated by Jagan soon after he was sworn in, these secretariats are to serve as the final link between the government and beneficiaries of various welfare schemes in the state.

The government has so far recruited 1.26 lakh people to man these secretariats. These employees will supervise 2.41 lakh volunteers, who will be in direct contact with beneficiaries. Each volunteer, who is paid a honorarium of Rs 5,000 per month, will be in-charge of servicing 50 beneficiary households. According to the Jagan, over 21 lakh people ap-

plied for jobs in the secretariats.

The Chief Minister Monday handed over appointment letters to several secretariat employees who were selected after an examination and screening process last month. “Village secretariats will ensure decentralised administration and deliver transparent, accountable and corruption-free services to the people of the state and create over five lakh jobs,” Jagan said at the event.

According to the Chief Minister, 11,158 village secretariats and 3,786 ward secretariats will start functioning on October 2.

Some of the schemes that the secretariat staff are supposed to ensure doorstep delivery of include the delivery of 20 kg rice bags at Rs 1 per kg; Rs 3,000 per month pension to senior citizens; Rs 10,000 per month to kidney disease patients requiring dialysis; Rs 15,000 per annum to women with two children in school; farm investment support of Rs 12,500 per annum to eligible farmers.



**GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**  
**SPECIAL PROJECTS DEPARTMENT**

**NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)**

S.P.D.No.B1/0789/2019 : Selection of Concessionaire to Install, Commission and Maintain underground City Wide Optical Fiber Connectivity for Chennai City under PPP mode.

Availability of Eoi document	From 01-10-2019 In website https://tntenders.gov.in
Date and time of clarification conference	14-10-2019 at 3.00 pm
Venue of clarification conference	Office of the Superintending Engineer Special Projects Department, GCC
Due date and time of submission of Eoi	04-11-2019 upto 3.00 pm
Date and time of opening of Eoi	05-11-2019 at 3.30 pm

**Superintending Engineer  
(Special Projects & BRR)**

DIPR/3422/Tender/2019

**इण्डियन ओवरसीज़ बैंक**  
**Indian Overseas Bank**  
आपकी प्रगति का सच्चा साथी  
Good People to grow with

**DARBHANGA BRANCH:**  
Kathalbari, Darbhanga 846004, Ph: 06272-246038, job1276@iob.in

**POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) Rule 8(1)**

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Indian Overseas Bank under Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers/Mortgagors/Guarantors mentioned herein below to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 of the said rule. The borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property herein below and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Indian Overseas Bank for the amount mentioned against their names and interest thereon. The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them, to redeem the secured assets.

**Name of the Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor:-** M/s New Karbla Traders, Prop.: Mr. Sadique, S/o Nesarul Haque, At-Gangwara Road, Darbhanga, Resident At-Chhapki Parri, Laxmi Sagar, Darbhanga 846009, **Date of Demand Notice:-** 15.07.2019, **Date of Possession:-** 25.09.2019, **Outstanding amount as per demand notice:-** ₹54,00,966/- as on 15.07.2019 with further interest, charges etc till date of realisation, **The dues payable as on the date of taking possession is** ₹55,46,549/- payable with further interest at contractual rates & rests, charges etc till date of payment, **Description of the Immovable Property:-** All piece and parcel of Land in the name of Sadique bearing Registered Sale Deed No. 1085 dt. 24.01.2013, situated at Mauja: Beladullah, Pergana- Purab Bhigho, PS & Anchal: Sadar, District Darbhanga bearing Khata No. 91(O) 45(N), Khesara No. 221(O), 222(O), 223(O), 242(N) admeasuring 1 Katha. **Boundary:** North: Rasta 12 feet wide, South: Raj Bahadur Gupta, East: Samta Devi, West: Ranjeet Kumar.

**Date : 25.09.2019**  
**Place : Darbhanga**

**Authorised Officer  
Indian Overseas Bank**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED**

General Public is hereby informed that one boy **Name: Manish Kumar, S/o: Sh. Jai Karan Sahni, R/o: Vill-Gadhiya, PS Madhuban, Distt- East Champaran, Bihar** has been missing/kidnapped since **08.09.2019** from H.No. 5/5218, Gali No. 5, Krishana Nagar, Karol Bagh, Delhi from the area of P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **FIR No. 204/19 dated 16.09.2019 us 363 IPC** has been registered at P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi. The description of the missing boy are as under: **Age:** About 14 years, **Height:** 4', **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Built:** Thin, **Eye:** Black, **Hair:** Small Black, **Wearing:** Orange Colour T-Shirt, Blue Nikker and Red chapple in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the boy but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this boy kindly inform to the following.

**Website:** http://cbi.nic.in  
**E-mail Id :** cbc@cbi.gov.in  
**Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**Fax No. 011-24368639**  
**DP/6607/CD/19**

**SHO  
P.S. Prasad Nagar, Delhi  
Tel.No. 011-25725652, 8750870432**

**IT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (ITDA)**  
Department of Information Technology  
Government of Uttarakhand  
IT Bhawan, Plot No. IT-07, IT Park, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun  
Telefax: 0135-2606330, Email:ditda-uk@nic.in

**Tender Notice for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloons) & DRONE**  
Request for Proposal (RFP) is being issued by ITDA, Department of IT, Uttarakhand to the reputed companies meeting the qualification criteria for Selection of Service Provider for providing Project Management Cell (PMC) for Uttarakhand Aerostat technology (Balloons) & DRONE. The RFP document can be downloaded from [www.uptenders.gov.in](http://www.uptenders.gov.in) from 30.09.2019 from 10 AM onwards. The parties willing to participate in the RFP will have to apply through the Electronic Tendering Procedure (e-Tendering) as per the guidelines issued by Government of Uttarakhand available on the above mentioned web site under the link "Bidders Manual Kit". Director ITDA reserves the right to cancel the RFP at any point of time, without assigning any reason thereof.

**DIRECTOR**

**कार्यालयक अभियंता का कार्यालय**  
**ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, गुमला**

**शुद्धि पत्र**

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 1159 दिनांक 24.09.2019 द्वारा आमंत्रित ई-अल्यकालीन निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या **RDD/SD/ GUMLA/15/2019-20** जिसका पी०आर०(PR) सं० 217909 Rural Development (2019-20)\_D है, में अपरिहार्य कारणों से आंशिक संशोधन किया जाता है।

जिसे क्रम संख्यावार निम्नवत् पढ़ा जाय:-

3. ई-निविदा प्राप्त की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय - 10.10.2019 अपराह्न 5:00 बजे तक

4. ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, गुमला / मुख्य अभियंता कार्यालय, ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमंडल, एफ० एफ० पी० भवन, धुर्वा, रौंजी में निविदा शुल्क, अग्रघन की राशि, Bank Credit Certificate एवं Affidavit जमा करने की तिथि एवं समय 11.10.2019 अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक

अन्य शर्तें पूर्ववत् रहेगा।

कार्यालयक अभियंता  
ग्रामीण विकास विशेष प्रमण्डल, गुमला  
PR 218433 (Rural Development)19-20#D

**SEARCH FOR KIDNAPPED**

General public is hereby informed that one female namely **Punita Devi, W/o Sh. Mukesh Kumar, R/o: D-2301/N-39, Jhuggi Sarai Pipal Thala, Mandi, Delhi, Age: 25 years, Height: 4'6", Complexion: Fair, Face: Round, Built: Thin, Hair: Black, wearing unknown clothes,** has been missing since 19.08.2019.

In this regard a **DD No. 41A, dated 20.08.2019** has been registered at **P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi**. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the female but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about her please inform undersigned.

**Website :** http://cbi.nic.in  
**E-mail :** cbc@cbi.gov.in  
**Fax:** 011-24368639  
**Ph. No. : 011-24368638, 24368641**  
**DP/9333/NW/19**

**SHO  
P.S. Mahendra Park, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-27632501, 27632502**

**TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED**  
Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur District, Tamil Nadu,  
E-mail: pmd6@tnpl.co.in, Web: www.tnpl.com  
Phone No. 04324-277001 (10 lines), Extn. 4202/4295

**NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

**For Design, Manufacture, Supply & Supervision of Installation and Commissioning of Distributed Control System (DCS)**

Bidders may request the tender document at the above address by post/mail. Detailed NIB may be viewed in websites: [www.tenders.tn.gov.in/www.tnpl.com](http://www.tenders.tn.gov.in/www.tnpl.com)

Date of Issue of Bid Document: **01<sup>st</sup> October, 2019**  
Due date for submission: **30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019**

DIPR/3415/Tender/2019

**TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper**

**SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED FEMALE**

General Public is hereby informed that one female (depicted in the photo) namely **Asha W/o Surender R/o H.No.142, Madan Pur Dabas, Delhi Aged-32 Years** has been reported missing/kidnapped since 08.09.2019 vide **DD No.63-A Dated 08.09.2019** registered at Police Station Kanjhawala, Delhi. Her physical description is as under:-

**Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Long, **Clothing:** Green coloured Suit, Salwar and Blue coloured slipper in feet.

Any person having any information/Clue about this missing/kidnapped female, may inform SHO, Kanjhawala, Delhi at E-mail : [cbc@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cbc@cbi.gov.in) or website <http://cbi.nic.in>

**Tele No. : 011-24368638 or 24368641** Sd/-  
**FAX No. : 011-24368639** SHO, Kanjhawala, Delhi  
**DP/3313/RD/19** Tel.: 011-25952485, 25951486

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

Name of work and its location	<b>30-ELECT-45-T-2019-20-E3</b> Comprehensive AMC of Omega make lifts installed at CNKP Railway officers colony.
Approx. cost of the works in	Rs. 8.88 lacs
Address of the office	Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Earnest Money	Rs. 17800.00
Date & time of submission of tender	22.10.2019, 15.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	22.10.2019, 15.15 Hrs.
Website & notice board	<a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a> & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.

3153/19

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**PDPM** Annexure A  
Indian Institute of Information Technology  
Design & Manufacturing, Jabalpur

**TENDER NOTICE (Second Call)**

**NIT No: IIITDM/B&W/19/09/178** Dated: 19/09/2019  
Registrar invites separate and sealed **percentage rate tenders**, on behalf of the Board of Governors, PDPM IIITDM Jabalpur, for the following works from reputed contractors of appropriate class borne on approved list of the CPWD, MES, Railways and other PSU of the Central Government.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	EMD (In Rs.)	Stipulated period
1.0	Chain link fencing around Rewa Residency-2 at IIITDM Jabalpur.	As per schedule attached-A	26,000/-	30 Days

Application for tender document shall be received at IWD office upto **10.10.2019 (17.00 hrs.)**. Tender documents can be obtained on written application from the IWD office, PDPM IIITDM, Jabalpur on payment of Rs. 1,000/- in shape of Bank Draft/Challan during working hours from **11.10.2019 to 15.10.2019** or may be downloaded from institute website. Tender will be received upto **15.00 hrs. 16.10.2019** and will be opened at **16.00 hrs.** on the same day. Detailed NIT and other information regarding tender cost, EMD, eligibility criteria etc. about tenders can be seen at our website: [www.iiitdmj.ac.in](http://www.iiitdmj.ac.in) Registrar

**verka**  
Phulo Phalo, Pure Khao Phyo.

**THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.**  
**SCO 153-155. SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812-13**

**Notice Inviting Tender** [www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)

**Section-A**  
**e-Tenders are hereby Invited for the purchase and supply of following items -**

Sr No	Name of the Item	Qty/ Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Date & Time for Sale/ Downloading of e-tenders online	Last Date & Time of Submission of online e-tenders	Date & Time of opening of e-tenders
1.	Providing & Laying of paver blocks & Drainage System at Milk Chilling Centre Morinda. Approx.Cost.23.20Lacs	4 Months	Verka Head Office, SCO No. 153-155, Sector 34A, Chandigarh. Ph No. 0172-5041812-13	-	46,400/-	03.10.2019 From 11:00 AM	21.10.2019 Upto 03:00 PM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 22.10.2019 at 03:00 PM <b>Financial Bid</b> 25.10.2019 at 03:00 PM
2.	Purchase of visi-coolers and chest coolers (Annual Rate Contract)	01 year	-do-	200/-	1,50,000/-	01.10.2019	16.10.2019 Upto 05:00 PM	17.10.2019 at 11:00 AM
3.	Hiring of Insulated S.S. Road Milk Tankers for transportation of Milk from Verka Mohali Dairy to sister Unions, other Unions/Plants within or outside Punjab	12 nos	General Manager, Verka Mohali Dairy. Ph No. 0172-2271020-21, 2271784	500/-	1,00,000/- Per Tanker	04.10.2019 From 01:00 PM	17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	18.10.2019 at 12:30 PM
4.	Providing Security Services on job contract basis	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	100/-	1,00,000/-	03.10.2019 From 03:00 PM	18.10.2019 Upto 11:00 AM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 18.10.2019 at 03:00 PM <b>Financial Bid</b> 24.10.2019 at 03:00 PM
5.	Lifting of rice husk/coal/firewood from the husk/coal yard to the boiler furnaces	-	General Manager, Verka Hoshairpur Dairy. Ph No. 01882-238157-77	200/-	10,000 /-	02.10.2019 From 05:00 PM	17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	18.10.2019 at 10:30 AM
6.	Filling of Ghee Tins in ½ ltrs, 1 ltrs, 2ltrs, 5 ltrs Tin, 15 kg Tin & Mono Cartons in ½ ltrs & 1 ltrs packing and related jobs on per tins/Mono cartons basis.	-	-do-	200/-	10,000 /-	02.10.2019 From 05:00 PM	17.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	18.10.2019 at 10:30 AM
7.	Rice Husk (2500 MT)	600 MT for the Month Nov 2019 600 MT for the Month Dec 2019 800 MT for the Month Jan-Feb 2020 500 MT for the Month Mar-Aprl. 2020	General Manager, Verka Sangrur Dairy 01672-505270	200/-	1,00,000/-	03.10.2019 (10:00 AM) to 20.10.2019 (01:00 PM)	20.10.2019 Upto 05:00 PM	21.10.2019 at 12:00 PM
8.	Hiring of insulated road milk tankers for transportation of milk from MCC's to various Milk plants in Punjab etc.on Annual Rate Contract. CAPACITY 15000 Kgs (Double Chamber)	3 Nos	Dy. General Manager, Verka Ferozepur Dairy Ph No. 80549-23077	500/-	100,000/- per tanker	03.10.2019 From 3:00 PM	18.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 21.10.2019 at 11:00 AM <b>Financial Bid</b> 22.10.2019 at 11:00 AM
9.	Security Service Provider	-	General Manager, Verka Patiala Dairy Ph No. 80549-98531, 80549-98534, 80549-98535.	-	1,00,000/-	03.10.2019 From 02:00 PM	18.10.2019 Upto 11:00 AM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 19.10.2019 at 11:00 AM <b>Financial Bid</b> 07.11.2019 at 11:00 AM
10.	Printing, supplying and installing advertisement materials i.e. Glow Sign Boards, flex boards, flex and outdoor digital printing vinyl stickers at Patiala, Fatehgarh Sahib distt. and Haryana area	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	100/-	15,000/-	03.10.2019 From 02:00 PM	15.10.2019 Upto 11:00 AM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 16.10.2019 at 11:00 AM <b>Financial Bid</b> 16.10.2019 at 02:00 PM
11.	Fabrication & installing of Refrigerated Container complete with Refrigerating Unit.	01 Nos.	-do-	-	50,000/-	W.e.f 07.10.2019	16.10.2019 Upto 04:00 PM	<b>Technical Bid</b> 17.10.2019 at 02:00 PM <b>Financial Bid</b> 18.10.2019 at 11:00 AM

12.	Hiring of tampoos and trucks for supply of Verka Milk Products to other plants, branches, army and other parties having capacity upto 1 M.Ton, 2 M.Ton, 4 M.Ton, 7.5 M.Ton, 9 M.Ton, 13.5 M.Ton, 15 M.Ton and 18.5 M.Ton for various stations.	One year with extension up to 3 months.	General Manager, Verka Ludhiana Dairy. Ph No. 0161-5203350, 5203353	500/-	50,000/-	05.10.2019 from 11:00 A.M.	29.10.2019 up to 11:00 A.M.	<b>Technical bid</b> 30.10.2019 at 11:30 A.M. <b>Financial bid</b> 08.11.2019 at 11:30 A.M.
13.	Supply of Veterinary Medicines	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	09.10.2019 from 11:00 A.M.	31.10.2019 up to 12:00 P.M.	<b>Technical bid</b> 01.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M. <b>Financial bid</b> 08.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M.
14.	Supply of Liquid Nitrogen Gas	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	25,000/-	05.10.2019 from 11:00 A.M.	24.10.2019 up to 12:00 P.M.	<b>Technical bid</b> 25.10.2019 at 11:00 A.M. <b>Financial bid</b> 25.10.2019 at 11:15 A.M.
15.	Supply of Disposable Items.	Annual Rate Contract	-do-	500/-	25,000/-	07.10.2019 from 11:00 A.M.	31.10.2019 up to 12:00 P.M.	<b>Technical bid</b> 01.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M. <b>Financial bid</b> 05.11.2019 at 11:00 A.M.
16.	Pest/Rodent Control Service at Cattle Feed Plant, Khanna	Annual Rate Contract	General Manager, Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Bhattian (Khanna) Ph No. 01628-521450,51,57)	200/-	10,000/-	03.10.2019 From 01:00 PM	14.10.2019 Up to 12:30 PM	14.10.2019 at 02:00 PM
17.	Hiring of five seater Bolaro Camper or equivalent model 2017	-do-	-do-	-do-	5,000/-	03.10.2019 From 01:00 PM	14.10.2019 Up to 12:30 PM	14.10.2019 at 02:00 PM
18.	Engaging of Outsource Agency for providing Security Staff.	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	03.10.2019 From 01:00 PM	16.10.2019 Up to 01:00 PM	16.10.2019 at 02:30 PM
19.	Engaging of Outsource Agency for providing of Unskilled/Skilled/ Highly skilled & other Man Power.	-do-	-do-	500/-	50,000/-	03.10.2019 From 01:00 PM	16.10.2019 Up to 01:00 PM	16.10.2019 at 02:30 PM
20.	Auction of Unserviceable material as is where basis	44 nos	General Manager, Verka Amritsar Dairy. Ph No. 0183-2263139 73555-48163	200/-	25,000/-	04.10.2019	20.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	21.10.2019 at 12.00 PM
21.	Auction of Condemned Road milk Tanker no. PB02-J 9822 and PJA-7819 both TATAMake. Capacity 10,000 ltr	2 Nos	-do-	200/-	20,000/- for each vehicle	04.10.2019	20.10.2019 Upto 5:00 PM	21.10.2019 at 12.30 PM
22.	Hiring of Tata indica, indigo, swift dz, swift & other similar vehicles for official use Model No. 2014 & above	9 Vehicle Period from 01.11.2019 to 31.10.2020	-do-	200/-	5000/-	03.10.2019 From 05:00 PM	24.10.2019 Upto 4:30 PM	25.10.2019 at 11.00 AM
23.	Hiring of Diesel vehicle for lifting milk in can route. capacity 1 ton & above less than 2 ton Model No. 2013 & above	45 Routes Period from 01.11.2019 to 31.10.2020	-do-	200/-	15,000/-	03.10.2019 From 05:00 PM	24.10.2019 Upto 4:30 PM	25.10.2019 at 11.00 AM

Bidders shall have to pay required Tender Processing fee through online mode only i.e. through debit/credit card for getting registered for e-tendering system. EMD should be made only through online mode i.e. Credit/Debit card, NEFT/RTGS, Internet Banking. For participating in the above e-tender, the parties shall have to get themselves registered with our e-Tendering portal i.e. **eproc.punjab.gov.in** and get USER ID and Password well in time. For downloading tender through e-tendering, process flow, please contact e-Procurement help desk on given Nos. 0172-2970263, 2970284 immediately so that process of timely registration and downloading the tender is completed in time by the date of tender opening. For additional details regarding e-tendering please visit website [eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in)

Note:- Tender processing Fee is Non- Refundable.

**Section - B**  
**Sealed Tenders are hereby invited on the prescribed Performa for the purchase of following items:-**

Sr No	Name of the Item	Qty/ Contract Period	Consignee/ Place of Tender Opening	Tender Cost (Rs.)	E.M.D (Rs.)	Last Date & Time of Submission of Tenders	Date & time of receipt and opening of tender
1.	Hiring of Double cabin Pickup jeep (AC) Passenger vehicle for purchase, Marketing and Engineering etc for all India area. (Jeep Imperio, Xenon, Bolero or equivalent)	01 No.	Dy.General Manager, Verka Cattle Feed Plant, Ghania-Ke-Banger (Batala) Ph No. 01871-266741	100/-	5,000/-	-	10.10.2019

Interested parties may obtain detailed Tender Documents from the office of Consignee where tender is to be opened on any working day from (9AM to 5 PM). If any clarification is required may contact on Phone Numbers given above. The Tender Notice may also be seen at Verka Website ([www.verka.coop](http://www.verka.coop)). TENDER (S) WITHOUT EARNEST MONEY ARE LIABLE TO BE REJECTED. The Consignee reserves the right to accept/reject any/ all tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever.

**General Manager (QA&E)**



PANEL TO FINALISE CONTOURS

Government plans penicillin revival to fight rheumatic fever

ABANTIKA GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

IN A bid to fight drug resistance and tackle rheumatic heart disease, the Government of India is planning a revival of penicillin, one of the oldest antibiotics known to man. Not many organisations have developed resistance to it yet.

Penicillin went out of production in India because of unrealistic price control, officials said. The government is now planning to procure penicillin centrally for three years and give it to all children between 5-15 years who have a sore throat, at least once. The drug will be dispensed through primary health centres or administered by ASHAs.

A committee has been formed with officials from the department of health research to finalise the contours of the plan to tackle rheumatic fever and heart disease burden and revive penicillin.

A senior health ministry official said, "We are looking at a plan to deal with rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease load and are trying to revive penicillin availability because it is the cheapest option for rheumatic fever treatment. We are exploring various options including talking to the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority to take it off the price control list. Also, to kickstart production, we are looking at procuring the medicine centrally --- enough stock for three years so that manufacturers are encouraged to restart production."

Penicillin, discovered in 1928,

is still the first line antibiotic in many western countries, but it gradually went out of the Indian market even though some of its more expensive derivatives continue to be prescribed.

Population-based studies indicate the prevalence of rheumatic heart disease in India to be about 2/1000 population. However, surveys conducted in school children in the age group of 5-16 years by ICMR gives overall prevalence of 6/1000. Rheumatic fever is endemic in India and remains one of the major causes of cardiovascular disease, accounting for nearly 25-45% of acquired heart disease. Not all sore throats go on to become rheumatic fever with severe joint pain or affect the heart in a disease that eventually leaves no option but to replace the heart valves --- a condition known as rheumatic heart disease. However, doctors say, it is better to give an antibiotic dose and nip the possibility in the bud.

Dr Arun Singh, advisor to the Ministry of Health, said: "Penicillin is one of the oldest antibiotics and in many western countries still remains the first antibiotic. Yet in India it has almost gone out of the market because of price control. The prices were kept so low that manufacturers stopped making the drug. On the other hand, India has a high burden of rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease --- the latter often goes undiagnosed and leads to many maternal deaths at the time of childbirth. The first presentation often is a sore throat, so we are looking at giving a course of penicillin to all children between 5-15 years once."



EXPRESS TRAVEL

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the Delhi-Meerut Expressway phase-III, Monday. The 82-km-long expressway connects Delhi with Meerut in western UP. *Abhinav Saha*

Kerala best, UP worst performer in NITI school education index

HARIKISHAN SHARMA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE NITI Aayog on Monday released its first School Education Quality Index (SEQI) report, in which Kerala emerged as the best performing state, while Uttar Pradesh was the worst among the larger 20 states in the country.

Aimed at assessing the quality of school education in states and Union Territories, the SEQI is based on 30 indicators grouped into two broad categories - 'outcome' and 'governance' processes aiding outcomes. States and UTs have been ranked in the index based on their overall performance in the reference year of 2016-17.

The list does not include West Bengal as the state did not participate in the exercise.

Titled 'The success of Our Schools: School Education Quality Index 2019', the report was released by NITI Aayog vice-

chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar and CEO Amitabh Kant.

According to the report, among larger states, Kerala topped the list with a score of 0.766 in overall performance, with Rajasthan second with a score of 0.729.

Uttar Pradesh was the worst performer with a score of just 0.364, and ranked at the last place on the list. The other big states with dismal performance are Jammu and Kashmir (0.411), Punjab (0.411), Bihar (0.420) and Jharkhand (0.439), ranked at 19th, 18th, 17th and 16th place respectively.

The report has ranked eight smaller states and the seven Union Territories separately. As far as the smaller states are concerned, Manipur topped the list with a score of 0.688, followed by Tripura (0.645) and Goa (0.584), with Arunachal Pradesh (0.246) the worst performing state.

Among Union Territories, Chandigarh topped the list with a score of 0.829, followed by

OVERALL RANKING: LARGER STATES

Rank	States	Index Score
1	Kerala	0.766
2	Rajasthan	0.729
3	Karnataka	0.696
4	Andhra Pradesh	0.679
5	Gujarat	0.62

SMALLER STATES

Rank	States	Total
1	Manipur	0.688
2	Tripura	0.645
3	Goa	0.584
4	Mizoram	0.498
5	Nagaland	0.486

Dadra and Nagar Haveli (0.586) and Delhi (0.490). Lakshadweep was the worst performing UT with a score of 0.319.

Woman 'throws' 2-yr-old granddaughter out of sixth-floor flat, arrested

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE POLICE arrested a woman on Monday for allegedly killing her two-year-old granddaughter by throwing her out of the window of a sixth-floor apartment in Malad East last week.

Police said the incident occurred between 5.30 am and 5.45 am on Saturday when the baby, Jiya Ansari, was home with her parents, grandparents, aunt and a cousin. The sleeping family was woken by neighbours, who spotted Jiya lying motionless and bleeding on the ground. They rushed her to a nearby hospital where doctors declared her dead on arrival.

Investigators who visited the home allegedly noticed that the front door and kitchen window from where Jiya had fallen were both shut. "The manner in which

Jiya's body was found also suggested that she been thrown out," said an officer of Kurar police station. This led police to suspect that someone in the house had thrown Jiya out of the window, the officer added.

Balasaheb Salunkhe, senior inspector, Kurar police station, said an investigation revealed that Ruksana Ansari had never warmed to her granddaughter. "The accused was not fond of her granddaughter and would become constantly irritated when she played at home. Twenty days ago, she had even fought with her son and daughter-in-law over the issue and left their home," said Assistant Inspector G S Charge.

Charge said Ansari had returned on Friday after staying with another son for a few weeks. "Even after she came back, the anger she felt towards her granddaughter did not go away," he said.

ASSAM

Case against Wipro over labour law 'violation'

ABHISHEK SAHA  
GUWAHATI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE OFFICE of the Labour Commissioner in Assam lodged a case against Wipro at the CJM court in Guwahati based on a two-year-old complaint by a group of eight data-entry operators working on contract for the NRC through the IT company, officials said on Monday.

"The case has been registered against Wipro for violating the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act of 1970 because they had not obtained the required license," said Labour Commissioner Narayan Konwar.

In September 2017, eight data-entry operators had lodged a complaint saying that they were not paid the minimum wages. An official of the commissionerate said that the operators had alleged

a payment of around Rs 5,000 per month, much less than the minimum for a "skilled worker".

"While investigating this, we landed upon the fact that Wipro didn't have the license in the first place. So we filed a case. We are investigating into the allegation of violation of minimum wages," the official said.

The Labour Commissioner's office expects a list from complainants on October 14 regarding the total number of such contractual data-entry employees working for the NRC and their current salaries.

"Wipro abides by the laws of every jurisdiction where it does business and adheres to the highest standards of integrity and fairness in its employment and labour practices. The company does not comment on pending litigation," the company said in a statement.

I'm 95 years old and I have never seen such low electricity prices. And there is 24x7 electricity. What an amazing achievement!

- Charan Singh  
Dhichau Kalan

24x7 ELECTRICITY

LOWEST BILLS\*

दिल्ली सरकार  
सबसे सस्ती बिजली

Power Department, Government of NCT of Delhi

24 घंटे बिजली

सबसे सस्ती बिजली

DELHI NOW HAS LOWEST BILLS

Upto 200 units/month		
City	Units	Bill**
Delhi	200	0
Noida	202	1374
Mumbai	194	1244
Bengaluru	175	1272
Punjab	188	1357

दिल्ली ने कर दिखाया

Arvind Kejriwal, Chief Minister, Delhi

\* In comparison with Cities/States like Noida, Mumbai, Punjab and Bengaluru

\*\* The bill amounts are from specific consumers. The bill from Noida of 202 units is of 4KW sanctioned load and is from April-May 2019. The bill of Bengaluru of 175 units is of 3KW sanctioned load and is from August-September 2019. The bill from Mumbai of 164 units is of 0.97 sanctioned load is from May-June 2019. The bill from Punjab of 188 units/month is of 1.76KW sanctioned load from June-August 2019. The bill amount for Delhi is based on an assumption of 2KW sanctioned load





The IndianEXPRESS

FOUNDED BY

RAMNATH GOENKA

BECAUSE THE TRUTH INVOLVES US ALL

ELECTION, RESTRICTION

Holding local body elections in J&K amid lockdown and detentions could only deepen the distrust

THERE IS SOMETHING of the surreal about Sunday's announcement by the Jammu and Kashmir State Election Commission: Block Development Council elections will be held on "party lines" on October 24. According to this plan, the BDC polls will take place — for the first time in the state — at a juncture when restrictions imposed on citizens by the Centre since August 5 remain largely in place and political leaders continue to be detained, bringing to a standstill all political activity that calls for, and depends upon, the freedom of expression, movement and association. The panchs and sarpanchs, who form the electorate for the BDC polls, are also inhibited by these curbs. In fact, they have been especially affected, for longer. As this paper has reported, almost a year after the last round of J&K panchayat polls, many of these representatives of the people at the bottom—most tier of electoral democracy from different parts of the Valley continue to seek refuge in a hotel in uptown Srinagar as they are fearful of visiting their villages. Even before the current lockdown and communication blockade, this persistence of fear has served to underline the many questions of legitimacy that afflicted the electoral exercise at the end of which many seats of panch and sapanch in the Valley lie vacant, and most of those elected were elected unopposed.

Given that there has been little progress since then in empowering and enabling panchayati raj institutions, and in view of the heavy pall of anxieties and insecurities that has descended over the people and politicians in Kashmir now, the move to push ahead with the BDC polls raises serious questions about what that exercise could possibly achieve. But these questions are being stonewalled by the top echelons of government and the bottommost. The J&K Chief Electoral Officer, Shailendra Kumar, has sought to sweep the political questions under the administrative carpet. The state election commission, he said, is ready and willing to "facilitate" a level playing field, "whenever any candidate or political party approaches us". The BDC polls cannot be preceded by bypolls to fill the vacant panch and sarpanch seats, he said, because that would require electoral roles to be prepared afresh. It is important to go ahead with the BDC polls because "at block level many development works have stopped and are not moving ahead". And Union Home Minister Amit Shah has countered the questions about continuing restrictions in Kashmir by targeting the Opposition for the decades-old militancy in the state and the long imprisonment of Sheikh Abdullah, by invoking the deaths of jawans, and of course, by blaming the "Himalayan" blunders of Jawaharlal Nehru.

In just over a month, the map of J&K is about to change. It is still not known to what extent the move has sparked opposition among the people most affected by it — that assessment can be made only after the restrictions on them are completely lifted. Undoubtedly, what is needed in J&K is a genuine political process with politicians on the ground, not in detention. The push to hold elections when the basic conditions of democracy are not met could only deepen public distrust.

AT HOT SEA

IPCC report on oceans underlines urgency of upscaling GHG reduction targets, building resilience to climate change

BY 2100, OCEANS all over the world will absorb five to seven times more heat than they have done in the past 50 years, if we do not reduce our emissions trajectory," notes a report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released last week. This, the report warns, will lead to global sea-levels rising by at least a metre, submerging several coastal cities, including Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Surat. Marine heatwaves are projected to be more intense, they would last longer and occur 50 times more often. Sea-level rise could also lead to an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events, which occur, for example, during high tides and intense storms. Oceans cover more than 70 per cent of the earth's surface and provide critical ecosystem services such as soaking up heat and distributing it evenly. So, as the planet warms, it's the oceans that get most of the extra energy. But hotter oceans also mean stronger cyclones and storms. This could mean unprecedented volatility in several coastal regions. For instance, in 2014, Cyclone Nilofar was the first extremely severe cyclone to be recorded in the Arabian Sea in the post-monsoon season. Earlier cyclones impacting the country generally originated in the Bay of Bengal and made their landfall on India's eastern coast. Cyclone Nilofar did not make a landfall but it led to heavy rains in the country's west coast. And in October last year, a higher than normal surge in sea-level due to the dual impact of Cyclone Luban and high tide swamped several beaches in Goa. Some of them, in fact, went completely under water for a few hours. Warming seas have changed cyclone behaviour in other ways as well. In 2017, Cyclone Ockhi, which originated in the Bay of Bengal, travelled more than 2,000 km to wreak havoc on India's western coast — the first cyclone to do so in 30 years.

The IPCC report warns of more "frequent El Nino and La Nina events". These events in the Pacific Ocean are critically linked to the southwest monsoons in India. In fact, a El Nino caused a severe drought in the country in 2015. This means that countries will not only have to upscale efforts to check GHG emissions, they will also need to ramp up investments in infrastructure and knowledge systems that help build up peoples' resilience against extreme weather events. However, after the Paris Climate Treaty, progress on both counts has been patchy at best. The latest IPCC report should serve as a wake-up call.

THRESHOLD IN ORBIT

Elon Musk ups the ante in the space race, and this time it is a target worth shooting for

SPACE ENTREPRENEUR ELON Musk, long criticised for setting unrealistic deadlines, and then criticised some more for trying to meet them with an inhuman work schedule, has done it again. He threatens to put a prototype of his heavy and reusable rocket Starship into orbit in six months. It's a deadline that even the engineers of the Apollo 11 mission, who won the race to space, would have balked at, and they had a government budget and a huge space industry at their command. But a reusable rocket system — rather than single-use rockets for every flight — is the Holy Grail of space exploration. A rocket system that can ferry people back and forth between earth and orbit is the threshold for the leap to the planets and the stars. It is speculated that craft with other propulsion modes unsuitable for use near planets, like ion drives, could take over from there, propelling crews at tremendous speeds to distances now unimaginable. The existing transport system on earth works efficiently because people can easily change modes — bus to train or plane, then bus or taxi to the final destination. Space mass transport would probably be similarly variegated and interconnected. But why is Musk in such a hurry to "extend consciousness beyond earth", in his words? Perhaps it's because he believes that consciousness is up to no good down here. Musk has repeatedly sounded warnings about artificial intelligence, currently the Holy Grail of communications technology, running wild. Even if the AIs don't get us, climate change will. It appears certain that extreme events at shorelines will be experienced by people alive today. Against this grim backdrop, the sands of Mars as depicted by Edgar Rice Burroughs may seem inviting, and reaching earth orbit would be the first leg of the journey to safety.



PRATAP BHANU MEHTA

THERE IS, NO doubt, a stunning irony in Pakistan positioning itself as a champion of the rights of Kashmiris and human rights more generally. India's biggest asset diplomatically is that it is dealing with a state whose commitment to self-serving violence and the persecution of its minorities is so evident that it will taint any human rights cause it touches. But the superficial satisfaction that a diplomatic victory might yield for India should not blind us to one practical danger, and one deep moral truth. The practical danger is this: We can dismiss the current rhetoric as mere words. But two things stand out: India and Pakistan are now not just accusing each other of specific actions that are evil. They are impugning the core character of each other. Pakistan's charge against India is now not that India is a state that illegally occupies and oppresses Kashmir; it is that the nature of the Indian regime has changed to a majoritarian racial ideology. For India, Pakistan is not a state that uses terror; the core of the state is terror incarnate. These mutual accusations have been implicit in India-Pakistan relations. But now they are explicit positions, an attack on each other's core identity.

Combine this with another fact. The heightened rhetoric has raised expectations of action in both countries. Imran Khan incoherently oscillates between expressing helplessness and warning of nuclear apocalypse. But it is difficult to see the current political establishment in Pakistan not losing face, if it is not seen to do something. India, for its part, has clearly announced an intention to now "solve" the Kashmir problem and make sure Pakistan is taught enough lessons that it cannot get away with its characteristic perfidy. After the misinformation in India on what Balakot achieved and the constant need to drum up nationalist frenzy, there is also heightened domestic expectation in India's capacity to now take this fight to the finish. Whether this signal gets Pakistan to back down or increases the risk of conflict is an open question. There is also a leadership vacuum in the international system. The conflict has become a lot more existential on both sides. The room for clawing back is less, the prospect of a violent dénouement high. It would be complacent to deny this im-

South Asia needs a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props

India is being complacent if it thinks that the decimation of law, the suspension of habeas corpus, and the near permanent state of emergency we have practised in Kashmir is not coming to imperil the liberties of all of us. In some ways it already has. Whichever we look at it, there is no way out for South Asia unless there is a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props. The challenges of both India and Pakistan can be solved only if we re-imagine ourselves, internally, as a zone of freedom, not warring identities.

pending danger. But here is another moral issue. It is touching to see Pakistan express a love for India's minorities. India, quite legitimately, in turn used Pakistan's treatment of Ahmadiyas, Shias, and Balochis, as props in its own ideological defence while minorities in both countries say, "Don't use us. You will delegitimise us. We will deal with our own oppressors, thank you very much." But implicit in these rhetorical invocations is a clue to what went wrong in ideological thinking in South Asia. Rather than a general commitment to human rights, or the dignity and inviolability of the individual, rights were always invoked in the context of one community or the other. The problem of human rights was framed as the problem of distribution of power in particular communities: Muslim against Hindu, Hindu against Muslim, Shia against Sunni, Kashmir against India, Balochistan against Pakistan. The list could go on. In part, this was understandable since groups were often targeted in virtue of particular identities. But this framing had two unfortunate consequences.

We invoke the rights of our favourite group as and when we want; often those of our co-ethnics at the expense of others. So, rights are tied to communal sympathies. They set up a competitive dynamic over whose human rights matter. Human rights are, paradoxically, used to divide, not unite. In the South Asia context, we also have the challenge of endless minorities within minorities. If one group gets self-determination, for instance, chances are you will land up with another minority to protect within that group. In short, group-based rights don't work if there is no commitment to human rights and freedom within those groups. But if there is a general commitment to freedom and human rights, the claims of group-based rights become less necessary.

This paradox can be seen in the relation between nationalism and subnationalism. It is a truism that in the modern world a nation state is the political form under which rights can be claimed. But the process of consolidation of nation states can also become exclusionary, and often spawn counter resistance in the form of subnationalism. But if nationalism is, by virtue of its exclusions, illegitimate, so should subnationalism be (un-

less purely defensive), which often produces the same logic in miniature. It should be subject to the same suspicion. In a way, both need to be held to a human rights standard.

If South Asia wants to get out of the morass of deadly identity politics, it will have to make a commitment to human rights in general, not align them to a communal imagination. If individuals have freedom and dignity, identities will flourish and proliferate anyway. But these will be freely chosen, not scripted by exclusionary nationalisms. No matter how presumptuously a community might feel it can get away by denying other communities their rights by virtue of its power or numbers, eventually the culture of impugning rights comes and bites back.

India is right: Pakistan's persecution of its minorities has deeply distorted its nature and character. But India is being complacent if it thinks that the decimation of law, the suspension of habeas corpus, and the near permanent state of emergency we have practised in Kashmir is not coming to imperil the liberties of all of us. In some ways, it already has. Whichever way we look at it, there is no way out for South Asia unless there is a culture of commitment to human rights, not human rights as communal props. The challenges of both India and Pakistan can be solved only if we re-imagine ourselves, internally, as a zone of freedom, not warring identities.

It is easy to hear the utter derision human rights evokes. They can be conceptually complicated. But we have a good start. It looks like we understand the rights of individuals in particular groups. All we need to do is extend the same courtesy to everyone else. But in a week when we will be drowned in Gandhian piety, it is worth going back to first principles and asking: Even with these bombastic diplomatic victories, and full arsenal of force and repression at our disposal, can we imagine an enduring peace in South Asia, without reorienting its culture to individual dignity and freedom?

As Gandhi knew: We can either be free together or not at all.

The writer is contributing editor, The Indian Express



SOUMI ROY CHOWDHURY AND SANJIB POHIT

BAD AIR, BUT HOW BAD

Smog does affect health but there is no data on the problem's magnitude

IN THE PAST three years, several studies have linked air pollution with health effects. For instance, the State of Global Air 2019, published by the Health Effects Institute (HEI), claimed exposure to outdoor and indoor air pollution contributed to over 1.2 million deaths in India in 2017. Another study conducted by researchers at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and partner institutes peg the economic cost of exposure to air pollution from crop residue burning at \$35 billion, or nearly Rs. 2.35 lakh crore annually, for the three north Indian states of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi.

While we do not question the basic premise that air pollution has adverse health impact, we are sceptical about the figures quoted and the methodology adopted in estimating the cost.

First piece of the jigsaw of such studies relates to the availability of data on measurement of air pollution levels, notably mean concentrate on particulate matter (PM)10 (particles smaller than 10 microns) and PM2.5 (particles smaller than 2.5 microns, about 25 to 100 times thinner than a human hair). The availability of data has no doubt improved significantly in recent years, with an increase in number of nodes where such data is now being collected 24x7. However, while the discourse on air pollu-

tion in the Indian context centres around PM10 and PM2.5, there are other pollutants in the atmosphere which are more harmful — nanoparticles, for example. Soil erosion, dust storms, burning of unprocessed fuel and industrial and mechanical processes also cause air pollution. The lack of data on these implies that research excludes an important aspect of the health implications of pollution. This may mean that the total economic cost of exposure can, in fact, be higher than what is reported. But is it really so?

This brings to us the second piece of the puzzle: Estimating the impact of pollution on health. There can be two ways to understand it. For instance, IFPRI has used India's fourth District Level Health Survey data to correlate pollution with health impact. However, it is a general health survey and does not cover all diseases linked to air pollution. Moreover, the information is collated from households. Resource constraints preclude any attempt to collect clinical and biometric information of individuals exposed to air pollution. Health assessment based on respondents' perceptions may not provide a real picture unless a medical examination on the subjects captures the residues of such pollutants in the blood. Only then can the extent and severity of pollution impacts be ascertained.

In India, the general approach is to get the cost estimates from developed countries and then deflate the numbers using the purchasing power parity (PPP) conversion approach to arrive at economic costs of pollution. However, there could be a major flaw in this approach. For example, it overlooks how human immunity develops in polluted and non polluted areas. To completely overlook this fact may lead to an overestimation of pollution's adverse impacts.

While the severity of the air pollution problem is a fact, its magnitude can only be judged when, apart from scientists measuring air pollution and social scientists assessing economic values, medical practitioners are also involved in collecting clinical and biometric information. It appears that the last part is missing in most studies. Of course, given the shortage of doctors in India, it would always be costly to involve the medical profession in such studies. But then, researchers should acknowledge that they may be off the mark. As of now, the true picture remains shrouded in the smog that prevails over our cities.

Roy Chowdhury is associate fellow and Pohit is professor at National Council of Applied Economic Research New Delhi. Views expressed here are personal

OCTOBER 1, 1979, FORTY YEARS AGO

RSS-STATE EQUATION

BALASAHEB DEORAS SAID in Nagpur that the RSS considered politics to be only a part of the total national life and "our relationship with politics is to the same extent and of the same nature as we have with other aspects of life". He added that the "Sangh does not believe that the state is the chief or the sole instrument for achieving social good". Addressing an RSS rally on the occasion of the 54th anniversary of the founding of the organisation, The RSS sarsanghachalak explained at length the character and objectives of the organisation which, he said, believed in the secular character of the state and was dedicated to the rejuvenation

of Hindu national life.

MEDIA CRITIQUE

RAJ NARAIN, LOK Dal leader, has alleged that mass media was being systematically exploited by capitalist forces. "I will take the department of mass media in my own hands if this situation continues," Narain told newsmen in Varanasi. Narain said that the peasants and common people of the drought-affected region of eastern UP had strongly demanded postponement of the mid-term poll till the middle of February 1980. "I will convey this message of the people to the Prime Minister and to the Chief Election Commissioner," he said.

JANATA MANIFESTO

A DRAFT OF the first part of the Janata Party election manifesto circulated among national executive members contains a strong denunciation of President Sanjiva Reddy, defectors led by Charan Singh, the CPI and CPM. It is a review of the developments that led to the fall of the Janata government, the dissolution of the Lok Sabha and the announcement of the mid-term poll. The second part, a review of the Janata government's achievements, would be circulated among the national executive next week. The third part, listing the policies, if the party returned to power, would be drafted after a discussion on the suggestions by the national executive.





# An illusion of parity

India must reflect frankly upon China’s extraordinary transformation as it celebrates the 70th anniversary of the founding of PRC



C RAJA MOHAN

AS CHINA CELEBRATES the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic with much military pomp and nationalist pride today, India must reflect upon the extraordinary transformation on its northern frontiers. China’s internal and external trajectory has enthused, puzzled and troubled India since the early 20th century. The PRC’s fascinating evolution presents four broad themes for any Indian contemplation.

The first is China’s awe-inspiring economic miracle. This demands a deep Indian admiration for China’s success in improving the lives of the largest number of people in the shortest period ever. While Mao’s economic experimentation turned out to be disastrous, the era of reform and opening up launched by Deng Xiaoping at the end of the 1970s transformed China into the world’s second largest economy. It’s a matter of time that China will overtake the United States in terms of the aggregate size of the economy. China is not the first country to move from underdeveloped to developed status. It is the first country to compress that journey into just four decades.

Many in India tend to minimise the significance of this growth by pointing to the nature of the political system under the Chinese Communist Party. They invoke the excuse that India has had to pay a democracy tax that slows its development while China had an authoritarian dividend. The denial of China’s economic miracle, however, is also often accompanied by an envy of China’s rise. A more balanced Indian judgement would underline the possibilities for rapid and productive change that China has demonstrated to other developing countries.

In the middle of the 20th century, the dominant sentiment about Asia’s economic future was of pessimism. Many were convinced that it was impossible for late entrants into the world economy, dominated by Western imperial powers, to develop rapidly or successfully. China, in spectacular manner, proved that assumption wrong. India’s own reforms at the turn of the 1990s generated similar optimism that it too could rise within a short period. One difference, though, is in the comprehensive and sustained nature of China’s reforms — from education to diplomacy and from military to municipal governance. India’s reform strategy in comparison has been tentative, episodic and limited.

One exception to China’s story of sweeping reform, though, has been in the arena of political modernisation. That takes us to the second theme. The CCP deserves much praise for stitching a diverse set of people and territories into a single nation-state. But the CCP’s continuing challenges are evident in the problems it confronts today in regions with ethnic as well as religious minorities such as Xinjiang and Tibet.

China is also having difficulty in bringing Hong Kong under full sovereign control. Protests have continued for weeks against Beijing’s efforts to turn Hong Kong — that has enjoyed the benefits of the principle “one country, two systems” — into just another city in China. The developments are a reminder of



SUNANDA VASHISHT

I WAS AMONG the 50,000 people who watched Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Howdy, Modi event in Houston on September 22. Along with him on the stage were US congressmen and senators, Republicans and Democrats. The Mayor of Houston was on the stage. And then the President of the United States joined him. Other than when they congregate in the US Congress, I have not seen that many American lawmakers of both parties on one stage, and that too with 50,000 people cheering them in a football stadium. None of this was familiar ground for Modi, except perhaps 50,000 deliriously cheering crowd. Yet he stood there, owning every moment of that event. He played the host and the guest both, with remarkable finesse.

As I watched Modi, the immortal words of Theodore Roosevelt played in my head. “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly.” Modi that morning was the man in the arena — one who leads from the front and never shies from a good fight. The stakes at Howdy, Modi were so high that if even one little thing went wrong the entire



C R Sasikumar

the unending and uphill task of generating national coherence in a large state. The Hong Kong protests might also make it even harder for the CCP to complete Taiwan’s unification with the PRC.

Meanwhile, hopes that China’s economic growth will eventually lead to the emergence of a middle class and the democratisation of its polity have been dampened. The Xi Jinping era has seen a vigorous crackdown on dissent and the emergence of a surveillance state that has deployed emerging digital technologies in asserting unprecedented control over its population.

India has rightly avoided telling China how to govern itself. For, India has many problems of its own in building national unity and consolidating territorial sovereignty. But India can certainly learn from the ancient Chinese wisdom that governing a large nation is like cooking a small fish. They are easily overdone.

Deng Xiaoping’s emphasis on “one country, two systems” and letting some of China’s regions grow first and then pulling others forward brought great sophistication and subtlety to administering China. But Xi’s harder line could turn China into a strong but brittle state. India’s strength, in contrast, lies in its soft but supple structure that can absorb the inevitable tensions of nation-building. It is easy to forget this.

Third is China’s huge commitment to building national capabilities in science and technology. Exactly a century ago, the May Fourth Movement in China defined the goals of the nation’s modernisation as replacing “Mr Confucius” with “Mr Democracy and Mr Science”. Nationalists and communists alike recognised that breaking free from the chains of inherited religious and social custom was critical for China’s modernisation. While Mr Democracy has been elusive, Mr Science has found a thriving home in China. Unlike China’s economic rise, its emerging impressive credentials on science and technology have been less recognised in India.

China has begun to take the pole position in a number of emerging areas like artificial intelligence, robotics, data analytics, synthetic biology, new materials and space sciences. The size of investments in research and development, modernisation of the higher education system, opening China up for foreign faculty and talent, and making the People’s Liberation Army a major stakeholder have all propelled China to the highest ranks of scientific power. But, without a successful battle

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against feudalism, China’s technological progress would not have been so dramatic.

To be sure, the fight against Confucianism took extreme forms under Mao, including the vandalism of China’s rich cultural heritage. Under Mao’s successors though, China has found a better balance between preserving the rich past and embracing the spirit of science and technology. Meanwhile, India’s battle against feudal legacy is incomplete and might be losing steam. Delhi has also much ground to cover in catching up with China on science and technology.

Finally, there is the question of power in China’s world view. Nationalists and communists were one in their determination to restore China’s “wealth and power” (fuqiang in Chinese) that eroded so quickly in the encounter with the West during the colonial era. The CCP can rightly claim the redemption of that ambition in good measure. While many in the West admired and promoted the economic rise of China, they seem utterly surprised by Beijing’s current assertion as a great power.

The expectation that China will play by the rules devised by West and accept a status designated for them has turned out to be a delusion. China is now a great power in its own right and wants to deal with the world on its own terms. But the CCP, too, has been surprised by the pushback from the West and the rapid escalation of conflict with the United States. The nature of the increasingly unpredictable relationship between China and the West will shape international relations in the decades ahead.

Like the West, India, too, underestimated China’s entirely legitimate aspirations to be a great power and the speed with which it has got there. This has been compounded by a persistent Indian temptation to romanticise the relationship with China and hope that declarations of solidarity will overcome contradictory interests. To make matters worse, the illusion of parity with China has prevented Delhi from coming to terms with the rapidly widening power gap with Beijing and its impact on India’s world. Overcoming the consequences of that gap, which is likely to persist for long, will be India’s greatest national challenge in the coming decades.

*The writer is Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore and contributing editor on international affairs for The Indian Express*

## WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

“It is a tragedy that he (Boris Johnson) can get away with his fabrications and exaggerations whatever the cost to the country.” — **THE GUARDIAN**

# Her way of seeing

To target Romila Thapar is to target a new way of asking questions and writing history



VIJAY SINGH

BEFORE HEADING BACK to Paris, I decided to visit Romila Thapar who had been in the news for the insidious interrogation of her status as professor emerita at JNU. She referred then, with a certain distraughtness so rare to spot in her, to an ancient formula that sets out the pattern of debate — Purvapaksh-Pratipaksh Siddhanta. According to it, one first spells out the opponent’s position as truthfully as one can, and then refutes it point by point before setting out one’s own position. This principle was put forward in an ancient Indian text as a methodical way of reaching an intellectual resolution and ensuring further progress. The immediate context for referring to this principle was our conversation about the spate of ill-informed and foul comments she has been receiving, and how far their writers could be from the debating siddhanta of ancient India. I was outraged to hear about such language, insulting as they were to one of our most eminent intellectuals in the world.

When I reached Paris, I reached out to Charles Malamoud, an honorary professor of history at L’Ecole of Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales and a very respected historian of ancient India. It was Malamoud who first translated DD Kosambi’s work into French. “I was outraged to hear about Romila being asked for her CV,” he fumed. “It’s an act of hostility against independent science, against Romila and all that she represents...”

The conversation with Malamoud led me to speak to Gérard Fussman, the renowned Sanskrit scholar and professor emeritus at the Collège de France, the most prestigious research school here which boasts of 21 Nobel Prizes (Romila Thapar has been a guest lecturer at the Collège). Visibly upset with the JNU administration, Fussman remarked: “Questioning her status is an act of pettiness and jealousy.”

Fussman, who has worked closely with Indian scholars on historical and archaeological projects, wondered if people seeking Thapar’s credentials realised what her contribution to Indian history, and to India, has been. “She is an excellent historian — and much more. She is a towering intellectual in India and abroad. And her greatest contribution is to have Indianised Indian history.”

Fussman, who has devoted a lifetime to a study of the Indian civilisation, reminisced insightfully about an archaeological project undertaken in Chandert (Madhya Pradesh). “At the end of the day, when we would sit down to discuss our research with the Indian colleagues,” he recollected, “I found there were questions that the Indians were raising, but which had escaped me. Similarly, there were things that had intrigued me, but the Indians hadn’t even thought of them... But in the case of Dr Thapar, this was not the case because she was at home with both the perspectives — Indian and foreign. This is an

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### HINDI AND OTHERS

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Much ado about language’ (IE, September 30). Article 351 of the Constitution bestowed the responsibility on the Centre to encourage the growth of Hindi and develop it as a medium of expression in the country. The Article calls for enriching the language by assimilating elements from other languages mentioned in the eighth schedule and drawing vocabulary from these languages. The idea perhaps was to make Hindi an inclusive language, encompassing the linguistic diversity of the country. But over the years standardisation of Hindi has Sanskritised it further making it unintelligible even to the native speakers.

**Sudip Kumar Dey, Kolkata**

THIS REFERS TO the article, ‘Much ado about language’ (IE, September 30). The writer has rightly highlighted the crux of the issue related to the controversy over Hindi. It is merely a mode of communication between the people of north India. The beauty of this country lies in its diversity and plurality. An annual furore over the Hindi Divas is often a red herring used by the government to distract people’s attention from many other serious issues.

**Chinmay Jain, Delhi**

### RAY OF HOPE

THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘A win for diplomacy’ (IE, September 30). It’s true that normalcy has to be restored in the Kashmir Valley as early as the circumstances permit. A ray of hope lies in the recently announced local body polls. India being the world’s largest democracy doesn’t need lessons in human

extremely rare inter-cultural quality in an intellectual, and it is such qualities that have permitted Romila and her colleagues to take a university like JNU from scratch and build it into a great institution.”

In fact, I myself was witness to the nascent years of this university. I wonder whether it was the intellectual stature of our teachers (Thapar, Bipan Chandra, S Gopal, Sabyasachi Bhattacharya) or their manner of inspiring a handful of young minds that turned JNU into a vast, turbulent sea of intellectual passion. Libraries overflowed with students. There was no place to sit in them, they looked like railway platforms. It wasn’t uncommon to see students taking a nap between book racks in the library, while they waited for their next book. People skipped meals as dhabas ran virtually round the clock to cater to their insomniac clientèle. There were passionate discussions everywhere — on buses, at dhabas, in rooms and dining halls.

When I look back at those times with envy or nostalgia, three “teachings” from that era seem to have left an imprint on the mind. The first is a spirit of inquiry — a deathless devotion to the truth and an inner necessity to dig down to the root of the problem. Second, that period of learning infused in us a certain intellectual confidence to stand up to the world. Finally, perhaps the most important, we learnt a new way of perceiving history, a new way of reading our colonial and human experience, a new way of asking questions and writing history. This is “history from below”, written from the perspective of those who live or suffer it.

The truth is that, regardless of the governments in power, universities need academic freedom to flourish, they need fresh air. Intellectual and creative milieux anywhere in the world will always pose awkward questions to the state. They will say and do things that will please or displease the powers that be. But freedom of expression, and of learning, constitutes a sacred space that needs to be guarded as, in the long term, it teaches us — as individuals and as a society — to swim through the enigmas of life and history.

To cite an example that illustrates the sad predicament facing intellectual professions, I once made a film called “India by Song” on the post-1947 Indian history. I thought Doordarshan would be a good platform for its airing, so I proposed it to them. A senior official, who viewed it, liked it and wanted to air it on Republic Day. The film was sent to the in-house review committee which, incidentally, re-censors films which already have a censor certification! One of the committee members called me and said: “It’s such a beautiful film. But why did you have to include Romila Thapar’s interview where she speaks of the Emergency being like a dictatorship? Sorry, we can’t air it.” At that time, the Congress was in power. One year later, the government changed and I spoke to Doordarshan for an airing. This time around, it was someone else who said: “It’s such a nice film but why did you have to speak of the Babri Masjid demolition and the riots.”

*Singh is a writer and filmmaker living in Paris*

## LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to [editpage@expressindia.com](mailto:editpage@expressindia.com) or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301. Letter writers should mention their postal address and phone number.

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rights from Imran Khan. He should focus more on setting things right in his country where the condition of minorities is deplorable.

**Vinay Saroha, Delhi**

### ONUS ON RBI

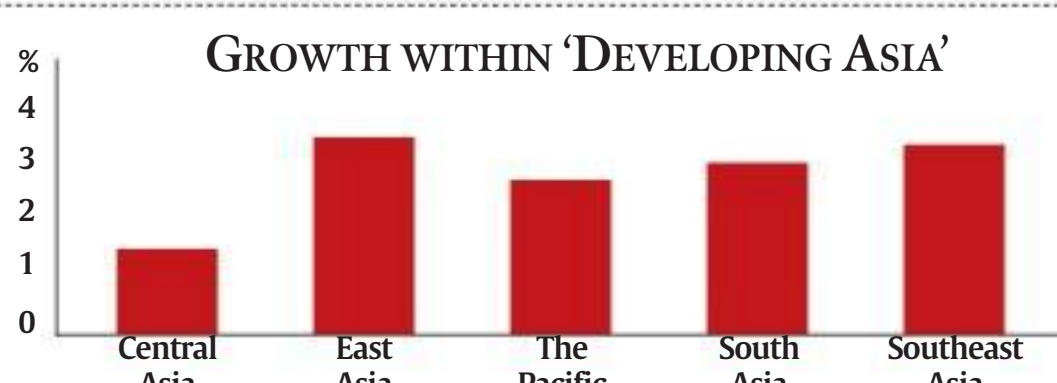
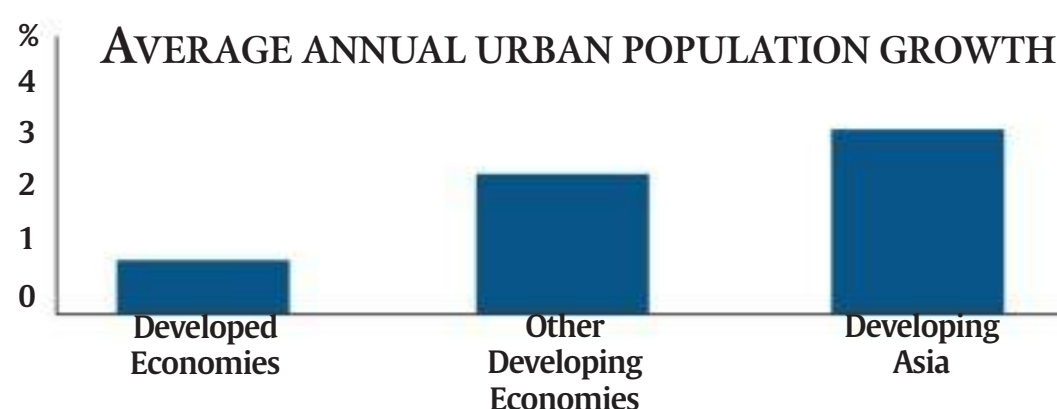
THIS REFERS TO the editorial, ‘Who pays’ (IE, September 27). The rising NPAs in the public sector banking units is a threat to the sector. This was the main reason for merger of public sector banks. The RBI should examine the long-term feasibility of the business model of public sector banks and monitor their activities more frequently.

**Aayush Sapra, Ujjain**



## TELLING NUMBERS

### China and India lead global urbanisation shift



THE ECONOMIC outlook update released by the Asian Development Bank last week highlighted that, according to World Urbanization Prospects data, "the number of urban inhabitants in developing Asia has increased almost five-fold since 1970". "Developing Asia" refers to a group of 45 countries that are members of the ADB. As such, between 1970 to 2017, the urban population in this group of countries grew from 375 million to 1.84 billion. The region led the global increase in urban population in this period and accounted for 53% of it.

Two-thirds of the nearly 1.5 billion additional city dwellers in Developing Asia belong to China and India.

Developing Asia urbanised faster than the rest of the world not only in terms of absolute growth, but also in terms of growth rate. The urban population in this region increased at an average 3.4% per annum from 1970 to 2017. This was much faster than the 2.6% in the rest of the developing world — mainly Africa and Latin America — and 1.0% in the developed world.

Within the Developing Asia region, East Asia, at 3.7%, had the highest annual growth rate. It was followed by Southeast Asia at 3.6%, and South Asia at 3.3%. The Pacific saw an annual growth rate of 2.9% in the urban population, and Central Asia witnessed a 1.6% annual growth.

## THIS WORD MEANS

### STARSHIP

Elon Musk has unveiled the prototype spaceship that he believes will take humans to Mars

ROCKET COMPANY SpaceX has unveiled a prototype design of the 'Starship' — the spacecraft that it is building at its facility outside Brownsville, Texas, which the company's founder Elon Musk says will take humans to Mars within the next few years.

The Starship, made of stainless steel, looks like a giant, shiny grain silo, stands 164 ft tall, and is 30 ft in diameter. It will be paired with a behemoth booster stage called Super Heavy; the full rocket will be 387 ft tall and will be able to lug more than 100 tonnes of payload weight into orbit.

Musk provided the update to the rocket on September 28, the anniversary of SpaceX's first successful launch 11 years ago. That rocket, Falcon 1, was 68 ft high, five-and-a-half feet in diameter, and could lift payloads up to 180 kg. Since then, SpaceX has developed a steady business of putting satellites in orbit and carrying cargo to the International Space Station.

An orbital test flight of a refined Starship prototype and the Super Heavy booster could be carried out in less than six months and, according to Musk, "we could potentially see people flying next year". Building a reusable rocket is critical to making space flight viable. Musk switched from his original choice of carbon fibre to stainless steel because it is cheaper, easier to work with, becomes stronger in the ultracoldness of space, and has a melting temperature that can more easily withstand the heat of re-entry into Earth's atmosphere.

The Starship will belly flop in the upper atmosphere at a 60-degree angle, Musk said. Then, as it slows and nears the ground, it will rotate to vertical and land. Musk has repeatedly revised the design over the last three years, fixing the size of the spacecraft, changing the heat shield, and adjusting the shape of the fins, etc.

THE NEW YORK TIMES



 [www.iasscore.in](http://www.iasscore.in)

## SIMPLY PUT QUESTION & ANSWER

# How to read corporate tax cut

A cut in the corporate tax rate announced earlier this month makes India a more attractive destination for future investments, but the move may not provide a massive boost to growth in the current financial year

UDIT MISRA

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

SPEAKING AT the Bloomberg global business forum last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a strong pitch before global investors to come to India. Back home, the government has initiated a slew of reforms to arrest the slowdown in economic growth. The cut in corporate tax rate has been the biggest change; inclusive of cesses and surcharges, the rate has come down from roughly 35% to 25%, and without the cesses and surcharges, to 22% from around 30%. The government has also nudged public and private banks to look at providing new loans to businesses, and has been working with RBI to bring down the cost of such loans by improving monetary policy transmission and reducing interest rates. From a policy perspective, the situation looks primed to benefit the "wealth creators", as the PM referred to business entrepreneurs in his Independence Day speech.

#### Why has the government cut tax rates?

A corporate tax cut works a lot like an income tax cut for individuals. In essence, a lower corporate tax rate means businesses have more money left with them; in other words, it increases their profits. As charts 1 and 2 show, India's corporate tax rates were quite high in comparison to neighbouring countries. A lower tax rate not only improves corporate profitability but also makes India a more competitive market for investments.

#### How does this affect economic activity?

The cut has three broad impacts. One, in the immediate term, it leaves corporates with more money, which they can use to either reinvest in existing firms or invest in new ventures if they think doing so would be profitable. But it is also possible that they may simply use this money to pay off old debts or pay higher dividends to their shareholders. Whether or not companies invest will depend on the prevailing economic conditions.

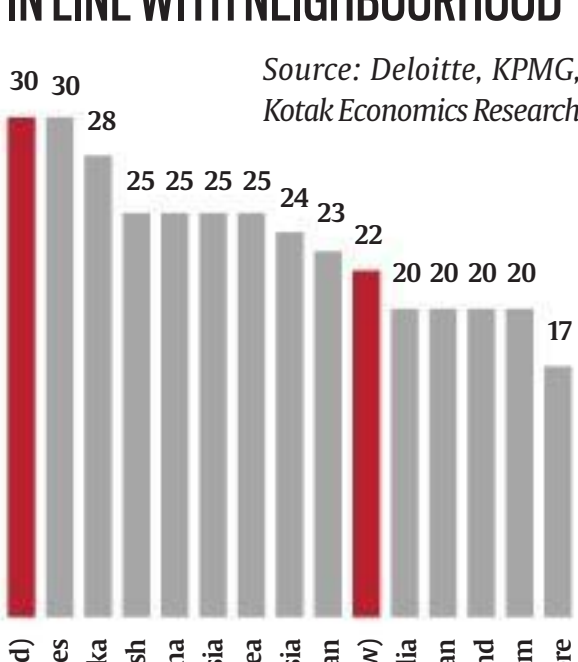
Investments crucially depend on the consumption levels in an economy. If there is high consumer demand for, say, cars, firms in that sector would happily invest — but if there is no demand for, say, chocolates, firms in that sector would not invest. However, if the consumption level is depressed because incomes are low across the board, and companies have high unsold inventories (cars and chocolates, etc.), the impact on fresh investments would be muted.

#### CHART 1: EFFECTIVE TAX RATES HAVE COME DOWN SHARPLY

	Old effective tax rate	New effective tax rate
<b>TURNOVER LESS THAN Rs 4,000 cr</b>		
Taxable income less than Rs 1 cr	26	22.9
Taxable income more than Rs 1 cr	27.8	24.5
<b>TURNOVER MORE THAN Rs 4,000 cr</b>		
Taxable income less than Rs 1 cr	31.2	22.9
Taxable income more than Rs 1 cr but less than 10 cr	33.4	24.5
Taxable income more than Rs 10 cr	34.9	25.6

Source: Union Budget, PIB, Kotak Institutional Equities

#### CHART 2: NEW TAX RATE MORE IN LINE WITH NEIGHBOURHOOD



#### CHART 3: BANKING, FINANCIAL FIRMS GAIN THE MOST

Industry	Share in tax saving (in %)
Banking, Finance & Insurance	42.5
Iron & Steel	6.1
FMCG	6
Mining	5.7
Auto & Ancillary	5
Capital goods	4.3
Crude oil	3.8
Chemicals	3.1
Power	2.8
Infra	2.6

Source: AceEquity, CARE Ratings

vestments would be muted.

Two, in the medium to long term, that is anywhere between one or two and five years or more, a corporate tax cut is expected to boost investments and increase the productive capacity of the economy. That's because regardless of a slump in demand in the short term, investment decisions are taken after considering long term demand projections. If demand is expected to grow, investments will bear fruit and with lower taxes, profits will be higher. These investments will also create jobs and increased earnings in due course.

However, a corporate tax cut also depresses economic activity to the extent that it reduces the money in the hands of the government in the form of tax revenues. If this

money had been with the government, it would have been spent on either paying salaries or creating new productive assets such as roads — either way, this money would have gone straight to the consumers, instead of the investors.

#### So, will the tax cut boost growth this year?

It is difficult to argue that it would. There are greater chances that India's GDP growth will continue to struggle in the current financial year despite the corporate tax cut. This is because of a variety of reasons.

One, official statistics show that workers in several key sectors of the economy such as agriculture and manufacturing, etc. have seen their incomes stagnate. There is also in-

## FACT CHECK, GROUND REALITY

# How did minor planet 'Jasraj' get its name?

AMITABH SINHA

PUNE, SEPTEMBER 30

A MINOR planet between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter has been named after the legendary vocalist Pandit Jasraj.

#### What is a 'minor planet'?

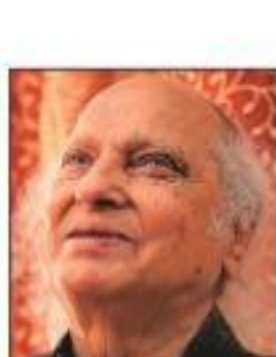
Minor planets are celestial objects orbiting the Sun that are not large enough for their gravity to pull them into a spherical shape. This distinguishes a minor planet — or a "small Solar System body", which is now the preferred term — from planets or "dwarf planets", which are almost spherical. Small Solar System bodies include asteroids,

comets, and several other celestial objects that go around the Sun.

#### How are they named?

Names of celestial bodies are finally approved by a committee at the International Astronomical Union (IAU), a global organisation of professional astronomers, which also decides on definitions of fundamental astronomical and physical constants.

In the case of small Solar System bodies, the discoverer has the privilege to suggest the name. The discoverer holds this privilege for 10 years since the discovery. But there is a process to be fol-



A shining star, a celestial body

lowed, and not all names are acceptable.

Once it is determined that a celestial body is indeed new, a provisional name is given. This name has the year of discovery, two letters of the alphabet and, perhaps, two numbers. The minor planet that has been named after Pandit Jasraj was initially called '2006VP32'.

Once more information is available about the body, particularly its orbit, and after it has been sighted on at least four occasions, it is entitled to have a permanent number. In this case, the number allotted was 300128. Only after this is

the discoverer invited to suggest a name.

#### What are the requirements of the name?

There are rules for nomenclature, and restrictions on the names that can be suggested. The proposed name must have 16 characters or less, it must be "non-offensive", and not too similar to an existing name.

Names of political or military leaders can be suggested only 100 years after their death. The same applies for a political or military event. Names of pets, and names of a commercial nature are "discouraged". There can be restrictions depending on where the body is located — for example, new objects discovered beyond Neptune are supposed to be given names of creation deities.

# China @ 70: Why National Day military parade in Beijing today matters

SOWMIYA AASHOK

BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 30

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, marks the 70th anniversary of the People's Republic of China, which Beijing will mark with the "biggest ever" celebrations and a "joyful atmosphere".

The celebrations will be an affirmation of national pride. President Xi Jinping has repeatedly articulated a vision of national rejuvenation and China's economic transformation into a developed country.

Beijing has been transformed into a sea of red. Red flags have been lined atop buildings, and red lanterns and banners with the logo of the 70th anniversary have been fastened across streets and draped over foot overbridges. The celebrations, which will go on through the entire day and night, will include a military and civilian parade. Close to 300,000 people took part in rehearsals for the parade, which included performances and a fireworks display.

#### Military might on display

The parade, on Chang'an Avenue cutting through the heart of Beijing, will display some of China's most advanced weapons systems for the first time, with a focus re-

portedly on weapons developed since Xi came to power in 2012. The parade — the 18th of its kind and the "biggest ever", according to the organisers — will continue for 80 minutes, and will involve 15,000 personnel of the People's Liberation Army, the People's Armed Forces, as well as China's militia and reserve service.

Fifteen units will march down the Avenue, and 32 units displaying 580 weapons and equipment will show China's "prowess" in land, sea combat, air and missile defence, informational operations, unmanned tasks, logistic support and strategic strikes, according to the Office of the Parade Leading Group.

Also, 160 fighter jets, bombers, early warning and control aircraft, and attack helicopters in 12 units will display the country's air power, a senior official from the Central Military Commission's Joint Staff Department, said at a press conference last week.

Chang'an Avenue will be locked down, and only a handpicked audience will witness the parade. Intensive rehearsals have led to early closures of subway stations in central Beijing over the past three week-ends. The city's residents have spotted tanks rolling down the roads, and there has been speculation that the machines have been



At Tiananmen Square, Beijing, on Monday. Reuters

parked at the heavily boarded Beijing Workers' Stadium.

Some video clips on social media have shown several types of aircraft, apparently rehearsing. The *South China Morning Post* reported that KJ-2000 airborne early warning and control aircraft and J-10 and J-11B fighters have taken part in rehearsals over the countryside surrounding the capital.

The SCMP report also quoted an unnamed military insider as saying that China's first stealth fighter jet, the J-20, had been "rehearsing over the western suburbs

of the capital since April".

The Defense Ministry spokesperson has underlined that China has "no intentions to flex its muscles" through the parade. "Some people are fond of playing up the Chinese military's development. In their mind, there exists a weird logic: If the Chinese military displays its weapons, then it's a 'show of force', and if it doesn't, then it 'lacks transparency'," he told reporters.

But an editorial in the state-run *China Daily* said: "The parade will show people that China is no longer the 'sick man of Asia'. It has the ability to stand up for itself should the need arise. It will show the world that the Chinese nation has the means to safeguard its rejuvenation."

#### President Xi's show

The 70th National Day celebrations carry an important message on the way in which Xi is perceived within China and outside. Over the last several months, state-run *People's Daily* has published the President's quotes above articles on its front pages, and there have been reports that journalists in state media will be expected to take part in pilot tests to assess their loyalty to Xi.

Former SCMP editor Wang Xiangwei wrote in an opinion piece recently: "It goes

without saying that the People's Republic has much to celebrate on its 70th anniversary... The occasion will also be Xi's show as the celebration aims at further elevating his political authority and stature. He is already described as the most powerful Chinese leader since Mao Zedong, founder of the People's Republic."

Chen Dingding, associate dean and professor at the Institute for Silk Road Studies in 21st Century told *The Indian Express*: "After four decades of rapid development, China is now the second largest economy but it is still a developing country with large population and myriad problems. Meanwhile, China is a responsible actor in the international community, playing a significant role in global governance. In the near future, the main issues for the government is to explore a sustainable way of maintaining economic growth and promoting people's welfare."

#### Celebrations and concerns

The grandest ever National Day celebrations come at a time of multiple challenges for China. The turbo-charged growth of the past decades has slowed in recent years, and the prolonged trade war with the United States has hurt the economy. In August, China saw industrial output grow at its slowest pace

since 2002, and soon afterward, Premier Li Keqiang said it wouldn't be easy for the country to sustain growth rates above 6%.

"We are in the face of the conflict between economy growth and sustainable development, pressure from trade disputes with the US, and other societal issues such as aging population, urbanisation, etc," Prof Chen said when asked to highlight the challenges before the country.

A massive shortage of pork, the nation's staple meat, has dampened spirits for a few months now, and officials have been worried it would ruin the "happy and peaceful atmosphere" required during National Day. A sweeping epidemic of African swine fever has left 40% of China's pigs dead or culled, and pork prices have risen over 50% compared to last year. Vice Premier Hu Chunhua warned last month that rising prices would "seriously affect the lives of urban and rural residents, especially low-income people, and affect the joyful atmosphere..."

Beyond the borders of the mainland, the violent anti-government protests in Hong Kong present a formidable challenge. A possible intensification of the police crackdown has probably been held in check due to China's concerns over its international image ahead of the National Day celebrations.



TOPOF THE WORLD



The wreckage of a car bomb in Mogadishu on Monday. *AP*

SOMALIA  
US base, Italian convoy attacked

**Mogadishu:** Somali insurgents mounted their most ambitious attack yet on Monday on a US special forces base used to train Somali commandos and launch drone strikes, while an Italian military convoy was hit in a separate blast in the capital Mogadishu. Twin vehicle-borne bombs were followed by small arms fire at the base in the town of Baledogle, where Ugandan peacekeepers are also based, a security source and Somali police said. No immediate casualties from the attacks were reported. The Al Qaeda-linked insurgent group Al Shabaab claimed the attack on the US base.

YEMEN  
Houthi release hundreds of detainees, UN welcomes move

**Dubai:** Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi group on Monday released hundreds of Yemeni prisoners in a unilateral move welcomed by the United Nations envoy, who hoped it would lead to further progress on an agreed prisoner exchange deal. The International Committee of the Red Cross, which facilitated the release, said 290 Yemeni nationals were transferred from the Houthi-controlled capital Sanaa to their homes. A prisoner swap between the Houthis and the Saudi-backed government of Yemen was one of the pillars of a deal reached in December to resolve the years-long conflict.

LANKA  
Court decides to hear petition on Gotabhaya

**Colombo:** A Sri Lankan appeals court on Monday decided to hear a petition this week on the citizenship of SLPP's presidential candidate Gotabhaya Rajapaksa to check his eligibility to contest the November election. The Court of Appeal will hear the petition that alleges Gotabhaya of violating immigration and election laws by engaging in political activities during the 2005 presidential election while holding a US citizenship. The petitioners claimed that Gotabhaya is not a Sri Lankan citizen.

AUSTRALIA  
Prosecutors need govt nod to charge journalists: A-G

**Sydney:** Australian prosecutors need government permission before they can file charges against local journalists, Attorney General Christian Porter said on Monday. Australian police in June raided the head office of the government-funded Australian Broadcasting Corp (ABC) in Sydney and the home of a News Corp editor on suspicion of receiving national secrets. The raids, which involved police examination of about 9,000 computer files at the ABC have drawn criticism from around the world.

# Hafiz Saeed claims threat to life, Pak court shifts case to Lahore

Arrested JuD chief facing multiple terror financing charges

M ZULQERNAIN  
LAHORE, SEPTEMBER 30

A PAKISTANI court on Monday accepted the plea of Mumbai-attack mastermind and Jamaat-ud-Dawa chief Hafiz Saeed to transfer a terrorism financing case against him from the anti-terrorism court in Gujranwala district of Punjab province to a court here on the ground that there is a "threat to his life".

On July 17, Saeed, a UN-designated global terrorist, was arrested in connection with terrorism financing cases while on his way from Lahore to Gujranwala. Prior to his arrest, the top 13 leaders of the JuD, including Saeed and Naib Emir Abdul Rehman Makki, were booked in nearly two dozen cases for terror financing and money laundering under the Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997.

Lahore High Court Chief Justice Sardar Shamim Ahmed held the hearing on Saeed's petition and accepted it when the



Hafiz Saeed was arrested on July 17. *Reuters*

government law officer raised no objection on it.

Saeed's advocate A K Dogar said his client is kept at Kot Lakhpat jail in Lahore, but he is taken to Gujranwala, some 80 km from Lahore, on every appearance before the anti-terrorism court there.

He said shifting Saeed from Lahore to either Gujranwala or Gujrat anti-terrorism courts may entail threat to his life. Besides,

the government has to make elaborate security arrangements on his shifting to the ATCs outside Lahore, he argued.

Accepting his plea, Justice Shamim allowed the trial of Saeed to proceed in the Lahore Anti-Terrorism Court.

Last week, the Lahore High Court's chief justice had transferred Saeed's petition against his arrest to another two-member bench. **PTI**

## Maleeha Lodhi removed as Pakistan's UN envoy

SAJJAD HUSSAIN  
ISLAMABAD, SEPTEMBER 30

IN A major reshuffle of diplomats, Pakistan on Monday removed Maleeha Lodhi and appointed Munir Akram as the country's permanent representative to the United Nations.

The development came a day after Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan returned from the US, where he raised the Kashmir issue in his maiden address to the UN General Assembly last week.

"Ambassador Munir Akram has been appointed as the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations in New York, in place of Dr Maleeha Lodhi," the Foreign Office said in a statement.

However, it gave no reason for her removal.

Akram had served as the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the UN from 2002



Pakistan's Foreign Office gave no reason for Lodhi's removal

to 2008. He was dismissed by then president Asif Ali Zardari due to disagreements over how to present the case of the assassination of Benazir Bhutto to the United Nations.

Akram had also courted controversy after he was accused of domestic violence by his partner, Marijana Mihic, in December 2002 while serving as Pakistan's ambassador to the UN. The case was reportedly settled out of court and he was not charged with the crime due to his diplomatic immunity. **PTI**

### AHEAD OF 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNIST RULE IN CHINA



Chinese President Xi Jinping and other officials bow during a ceremony to mark Martyr's Day at Tiananmen Square in Beijing on Monday. *AP*

## Xi vows to uphold 'one country, two systems' in Hong Kong

Police expect 'violent attack' in HK on sensitive anniversary

AGENCIES  
BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 30

CHINESE PRESIDENT Xi Jinping vowed Monday to uphold the "one country, two systems" principle in Hong Kong, after months of pro-democracy protests in the semi-autonomous city.

Speaking at a reception in Beijing the night before celebrations to mark the country's 70th anniversary, Xi said the country would "continue to fully and faithfully implement the principles of 'one country, two systems'" and a "high degree of autonomy." Hong Kong has been plagued by unrest over what protesters say are erod-

**"We are confident that with the full backing of the motherland and the concerted efforts of our fellow Chinese in Hong Kong and Macau who love the motherland... (Hong Kong) will prosper and progress alongside the mainland."**

— XI JINPING  
CHINA'S PRESIDENT

ing freedoms in the financial hub.

"We are confident that with the full backing of the motherland and the concerted efforts of our fellow Chinese in Hong Kong

and Macau who love the motherland... (Hong Kong) will prosper and progress alongside the mainland," Xi said.

China is preparing for a highly-choreographed anniversary celebration on October 1, including a huge military parade and anniversary gala.

Police expect more violence on Hong Kong's streets on Tuesday after a chaotic weekend in which they fired teargas at protesters who set fires and threw petrol bombs. There will be a "very serious violent attack" on Tuesday, a superintendent of the police's public relations branch, Tse Chun-chung, told a news conference on Monday.

## Impeachment probe to intensify, Trump remains defiant

DAVID MORGAN  
WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 30

US PRESIDENT Donald Trump on Monday intensified his attacks on a lawmaker leading the House of Representatives' impeachment inquiry, suggesting that congressman Adam Schiff should be arrested for "treason".

Witnesses are due to testify in the House this week in hearings related to Trump's request that a foreign power investigate Joe Biden, one of the leading Democratic candidates seeking to challenge him in 2020.

A US intelligence official filed a whistleblower complaint citing a July 25 telephone call in which Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to investigate Biden and his son Hunter, who sat on the board of a Ukrainian gas company.

The whistleblower has not been publicly identified.

In a series of Twitter posts on Monday morning, Trump appeared to reference comments made by House Intelligence Committee Chairman Schiff during a committee hearing last week.

In those comments, Schiff says the call to Zelenskyy "reads like a classic organised crime shakedown" and parodies the President's remarks.

"Rep. Adam Schiff illegally made up a FAKE & terrible statement, pretended it to be mine as the most important part of my call to the Ukrainian President, and read it aloud to Congress and the American people. It bore NO relationship to what I said on the call. Arrest for Treason?" Trump wrote in a post on Twitter.

Monday's post followed a string of tweets from Trump on Sunday evening in which he said



Trump went on the offensive, attacking the whistleblower and Democrats in a series of posts on Twitter. *AP*

### BIG WEEK AHEAD

**WEDNESDAY:** House committees for intelligence, foreign affairs and oversight are due to get a deposition from former US envoy to Ukraine, Marie Yovanovitch, who Trump labelled 'bad news' during his call with Zelenskyy.

**THURSDAY:** The committees are set to get a deposition from Kurt Volker, who resigned last week as Trump's special representative for Ukraine.

**FRIDAY:** The House Intelligence Committee will hold a closed-door hearing with Michael Atkinson, Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, who concluded that the whistleblower complaint appeared credible.

he wanted to meet the whistleblower, who he called "my accuser", as well as "the person who illegally gave this information" to him or her. **REUTERS**

## UK's Johnson denies groping allegations

REUTERS  
MANCHESTER, SEPTEMBER 30

BRITISH PRIME Minister Boris Johnson denied on Monday that he had inappropriately touched a female journalist 20 years ago, and said the public were more interested in hearing about his plans for public services.

As Johnson prepares to lead the United Kingdom out of the European Union on Oct. 31, his past relations with several women have come under scrutiny. The allegations overshadowed the Conservative Party's annual conference which opened on Sunday.

Charlotte Edwardes, a columnist, wrote in *The Sunday Times* that Johnson had groped her at a lunch in 1999 when he was editor of *The Spectator* magazine.

"Under the table, I feel Johnson's hand on my thigh. He gives it a squeeze," Edwardes wrote. "His hand is high up my leg and he has enough inner flesh beneath his fingers to make me sit suddenly upright."

Edwardes said that after the meal, she confided in another woman who had sat on the other side of Johnson. The other woman said Johnson had also



groped her, Edwardes said.

Asked in a television interview if he had inappropriately touched her thigh as she reported, Johnson said: "No".

When subsequently asked if she had made up the account, he replied: "I'm just saying what I said, and I think what the public want to hear is what we are doing for them and the country and for investment in ways of uniting the country." Asked if the allegations were overshadowing the conference, he said "Not at all. I think what the public want to hear is what we're doing to bring the country together and get on with improving their lives."

After a denial by a Downing Street spokesman, Edwardes said on Twitter: "If the Prime Minister doesn't recollect the incident then clearly I have a better memory than he does."

### COMBINING POLITICAL CHAOS WITH DIAMOND TRADE IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

## Gems, warlords, mercenaries: Russia's new playbook in Africa

DIONNE SEARCEY  
BANGUI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE DEALER pulled back a shiny pink curtain and sprinkled the contents of two white envelopes across his desk: sparkling diamonds, more than 100 of them.

Some gems are sold legally, he said. But many are trafficked by rebels who fight over the mines, adding fuel to a six-year uprising that has killed thousands and displaced more than 1 million people in the Central African Republic.

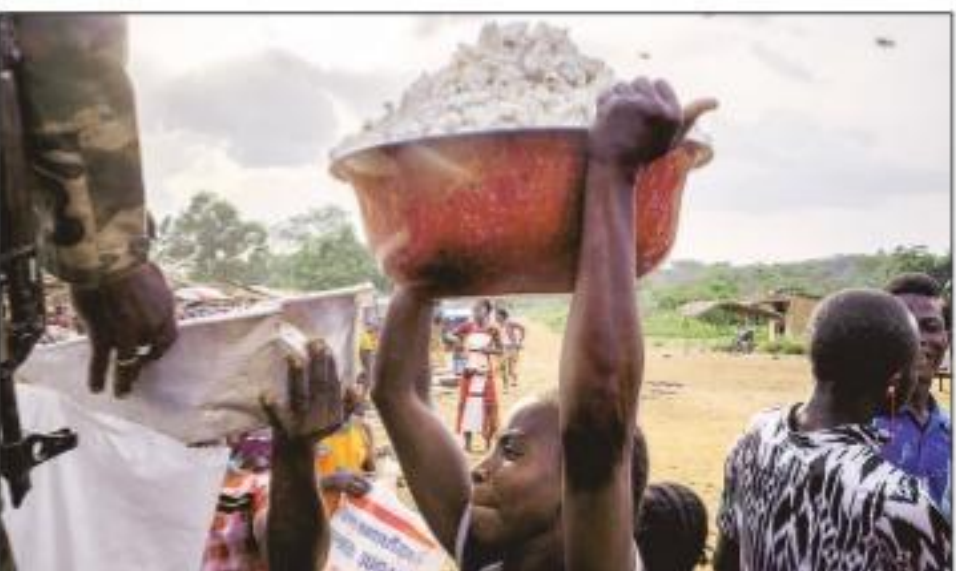
Now, hoping to wrest control over the diamond trade and piece the country back together, the government has turned to a new partner — Russia — in what some lawmakers fear is a dangerous bargain that trades one

threat for another.

Russian mercenaries have fanned out across the nation to train local soldiers. A former Russian spy has been installed by the Central African President, Faustin-Archange Touadéra, as his top security adviser. Russians shuttled warlords to peace talks with the government, helping lead to a deal with more than a dozen armed groups to stop fighting.

And the central figure behind the Russian involvement, according to local and Western officials, is Yevgeny V Prigozhin, a confidant of President Vladimir Putin who was indicted in the United States last year, accused of helping to finance "information warfare" and disrupt the 2016 US election.

The Central African government has welcomed the



At a diamond mine in Boda, Central African Republic. *NYT*

Russians, betting that stability will enable it to sell more diamonds legally and use the money to rebuild the nation.

"The rebellion in our country has cost us a lot," said Albert

Yaloke Mokpeme, the spokesman for Touadéra. "No one came to our aid except the Russian Federation."

But Russia's help comes at a cost. Its representatives have

struck deals with the government to mine diamonds where the trade is legal — one of many signs that Russia's push into the country is closely tied to profits.

Russian operatives have even teamed with murderous rebels to obtain diamonds in areas where the trade is outlawed, cashing in on the very lawlessness they have been brought in to end, according to members of the Central African government, Western officials and some of the warlords themselves.

More broadly, the fact that Russian mercenaries are training the nation's troops has unnerved some lawmakers. Human rights violations in the country are so common that the United Nations imposed an arms embargo against Central African soldiers. But the Russian trainers have

been accused of abuses as well, including rounding up innocent bystanders in mass sweeps.

"I keep thinking of what kind of army we are going to have if they are trained by Russians," said Hamadou Aoubakar Kabirou, a member of Parliament.

Prigozhin's role in the country has set off international alarms. Three Russian journalists were killed last year under suspicious circumstances while looking into his ties to diamond and gold mining. The Central African government has said it is investigating the deaths, Russian officials have denied involvement, and Prigozhin's spokesman declined to answer questions about the companies' mining or security operations in the country.

As in the American election, the battle for control over the

country is also being fought in the media and on social media. As Russian mercenaries connected to Prigozhin were streaming into the nation, Facebook sites were popping up with pro-Russian themes, showing photographs of local residents in T-shirts bearing a giant red heart and the slogan "Russia 2018".

Analysts and some diplomats say the Central African Republic has offered Russia a blueprint that it can export to other oil- and mineral-rich nations in exchange for mining rights.

As the United States has pulled away from engaging Africa, withdrawing troops and offering no broad policy agenda, Russia has pushed hard into the continent, expanding its presence in unstable nations with abundant natural resources. **NYT**



THE GOVERNMENT AND THE LAW

# Along came a spider

The Supreme Court puts more obstacles before Boris Johnson's Brexit plan



People protest outside UK's Supreme Court against Prime Minister Boris Johnson's decision to prorogue parliament, in London, on September 17. *Reuters*

IT IS rare for the Supreme Court to give a unanimous judgment on a contentious appeal. But that is what happened on September 24th when it ruled that Boris Johnson's prorogation of Parliament for five weeks until October 14th had been unlawful. The 11 justices upheld and even strengthened a Scottish lower-court judgment against the suspension, while overturning an English high-court finding that the issue was political and accordingly not suitable for judicial determination. In doing this, the court delivered a powerful blow to the prime minister's authority.

The blow was the more effective for the manner of its delivery. In a calm but mellifluous voice, the court's president, Lady Hale, sporting a glittering spider brooch, read out a damning judgment against Mr Johnson. If there were no limit to the government's ability to prorogue, that would be incompatible with parliamentary sovereignty. She cited a 1611 court ruling that "the King hath no prerogative, but that which the law of the land allows him." She dismissed the government's argument that a long suspension was needed to prepare a Queen's Speech and new

legislative agenda. She noted that it would limit parliamentary scrutiny. This mattered, she said, because of the exceptional circumstance that Brexit is due to happen on October 31st.

Although the Supreme Court did not say so explicitly, its ruling implied that Mr Johnson had misled the queen when advising her in August to prorogue Parliament. Not surprisingly, the opposition Labour leader, Jeremy Corbyn, interrupted his party conference in Brighton to call on the prime minister to resign. T-shirts with spider motifs quickly popped up on eBay, where they sold in their thousands. Coming after six successive defeats in the House of Commons, the passage of an act designed to prevent a no-deal Brexit, the resignation of two ministers and the removal of the Tory whip from 21 rebellious MPs, even the ebullient Mr Johnson might have been expected to feel some embarrassment or, just possibly, shame.

Instead he doubled down. He said he profoundly disagreed with the court's judgment. He offered no apology for his actions, even though they had been found unlawful. Although neither the government's defence

nor the court's judgment suggested that prorogation was directly connected to Brexit, he declared ominously that a lot of people were seeking to frustrate it. And he continued to insist that Britain must leave the EU on October 31st, deal or no deal.

As has happened before, some of his noisier supporters attacked the judges as part of an anti-Brexit establishment bent on thwarting the will of the people. Jacob Rees-Mogg, the leader of the Commons, reportedly spoke of a constitutional coup. A few Brexiteers suggested that justices should be subject to political vetting before appointment. Yet Geoffrey Cox, the attorney-general, declared that, although disagreeing with the judges was acceptable, impugning their motives was not. Indeed, the court ruling points to a constitution that is working, not to one that is broken.

What next? The court declared that, be-

cause the prorogation was unlawful, it had not happened at all. John Bercow, the Speaker, duly recalled MPs to Westminster on September 25th. They asked about the attorney-general's advice on prorogation, Mr Johnson's relationship with an American entrepreneur and no-deal preparations. They subjected the prime minister to two hours of questioning, in which the Tory benches roared their approval for his bombast. But he shocked many by claiming that the way to honour the memory of Jo Cox, a pro-Remain Labour MP murdered in 2016 by a far-right fanatic, was to get Brexit done. Nicky Morgan, a cabinet minister, was among those who criticised his language.

Mr Johnson repeated his demand for an early election. But under the 2011 Fixed-term Parliaments Act, two-thirds of MPs must vote for dissolution, so it needs Labour as well as

Tory backing. Although Mr Corbyn said he too favoured an early election, he insisted that it was vital first to stop a no-deal Brexit happening on October 31st. That means ensuring that the so-called Benn act, which requires the government to seek an extension of that deadline if it has not agreed a Brexit deal by October 19th, works as planned before any dissolution.

A final question is what effect all this may have on Mr Johnson's negotiations for a new Brexit deal. He claimed again that these were making progress. Yet the EU still wants a legally binding, written alternative to the backstop (a mechanism to avert a hard border in Ireland), which Mr Johnson wants to excise from the withdrawal agreement. Brussels has dismissed four ideas recently put on the table by the British team. A 30-day deadline for a new plan hinted at by Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, in late August has been and gone. Suggestions by Mr Johnson's team that he also wants to ditch earlier promises to avoid any border checks in Ireland by sticking closely to EU regulations are making it even harder to reach agreement.

Mr Johnson's lost authority after the Supreme Court judgment will serve further to emphasise his weak position in Brussels. His loss of parliamentary control was anyway making his negotiating partners nervous about offering concessions. The EU side fears that, just as Westminster rejected the deal struck last year with Theresa May three times, so it could do the same to any deal done with Mr Johnson. The Supreme Court ruling will make it harder for the prime minister to find some clever way round the Benn act. So the EU is assuming that, if no deal is reached at the European Council on October 17th-18th, Mr Johnson will be forced to ask for more time.

Weary though it is of the whole issue, Brussels is likely to say yes to a further extension of at least a few months. The expectation is that Mr Johnson will then secure an election. He wants to run by standing up for the people, who voted to leave the EU, against an establishment blocking the way. His humiliation by the court this week may do that populist strategy no harm.

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## CHAGUAN Hearts and minds

China's demand for undivided loyalty is causing tragedy in Hong Kong

OVER THE past four months as many as 2m Hong Kongers—or more than a quarter of the city's residents—have marched to demand the scrapping of a bill that would have exposed criminal suspects to the mainland's courts. Those protests were a stunning vote of no confidence in China's Communist-controlled legal system. They worked: the extradition bill is being withdrawn.

It is hard to imagine a clearer rallying cry for the many mainlanders who distrust their own justice system. Their cousins in Hong Kong, guaranteed access to independent courts and uncensored news under the rubric of "one country, two systems", could not bear to live as mainlanders must every day. But dissent in Hong Kong has not proved contagious.

Not all 1.4bn mainlanders think alike, but there are no reports of any of them marching in sympathy. That may be in part because, thanks to the unsleeping censors who guard the Great Firewall of China, many know nothing of the extradition debate. But it is also because an unknowable but significant number accept the narrative of China's media that treacherous radicals in Hong Kong, perhaps funded by the CIA, are trying to split the motherland. The widespread acceptance of this narrative is a testament to the government's success in shaping the way its citizens see the world.

Yet China's propaganda machine, so effective at home, is making a fool of itself in

Hong Kong. When officials try to peddle the idea that a silent majority in Hong Kong loves China, their efforts strike many people in the territory as laughable. Communist-controlled outfits in Hong Kong have often simply copied successful stunts by protesters. In mid-September pro-democracy marchers hiked up a local peak, Lion Rock, creating a chain of lights with smartphones, torches and laser pointers as dusk fell. The next day a smaller group of red-clad patriots puffed up the same hill to wave a giant national flag, in images heavily promoted by the mainland's media. When youngsters in Hong Kong packed shopping centres to sing a new protest anthem, small bands of the party faithful were mobilised to belt out China's national anthem in the territory's malls.

On the eve of a spectacular parade in Beijing on October 1st, when tanks and nuclear missiles will trundle past President Xi Jinping to mark 70 years of the People's Republic, it is worth pondering the domestic success of China's propaganda apparatus, and its external cluelessness. That machine is best understood as a giant, state-directed monopoly. Within China, it has grown strong. But in free markets fizzing with ideas and arguments from around the world, China's patriotic sloganeering falls flat.

In Hong Kong the city's former colonial master, Britain, left behind an awkward hybrid. The territory has the political culture and education system of a liberal democracy. But

its leaders are mostly appointed, with only a minority of political offices opened to direct election. Since Mr Xi became the Communist Party's boss, China has betrayed its impatience with even that limited accountability, and the central government's agents have worked to marginalise competing voices.

In 2012, the year Mr Xi took over, the Hong Kong government tried to impose "national education" on schools, but retreated in the face of mass protests. Politicians seeking greater autonomy or even independence (a minority view) have been barred from office or from running for office. A national-anthem law demanded by Beijing, if passed, would make criminals of Hong Kongers who boo the tune at football games.

The results may be heard in Hong Kong's shopping centres almost every night. Strolling this week through Kowloon, Chaguan chanced upon a few dozen youngsters who had been summoned by Telegram, an encrypted social-media app, to sing the protest anthem in the atrium of a shopping complex.

Nic, a 25-year-old protester, described his mixed identity. He does not imagine that Hong Kong can be independent, noting that 50 years after the handover from Britain the promise of one country, two systems will expire. "In 2047 we will return to China fully, we understand that," he says. "But we are trying to protect what we have until the last day." When he travels, his passport says "Hong Kong, China". But when asked who he



Anti-extradition bill protesters walk through Sham Shui Po in Hong Kong. *Reuters*

is, he replies: a Hong Konger. "China is not what we are proud of," he explains. "The Chinese government sucks."

Politics in Hong Kong is turning dangerously tribal. Rather than a debate about policies, it is becoming an argument about who is good and who is bad, who is bent on saving Hong Kong or on destroying it. In that culture war politicians who sympathise with the party conflate flag-waving patriotism with legitimacy. That has led them to endorse "patriotic" thugs and alleged gang members, including when they assaulted protesters in the far-northern district of Yuen Long in July. That

single incident changed the nature of the demonstrations, says Cheng Chung-Tai, chairman of Civic Passion, a party that wants more autonomy for Hong Kong. After Yuen Long, showing resistance and defiance to authority became a badge of belonging to the group that sees itself as defending the territory. "Last Sunday Tseung Kwan O got tear-gas for the first time. They celebrated," notes Mr Cheng, referring to an operation by police to quell protests in an eastern district.

**No room for a loyal opposition**  
Little in Mr Xi's record suggests that he

will respond generously and imaginatively to Hong Kong's identity crisis. In other peripheral territories, such as Tibet and Xinjiang, he has authorised brute force backed by high-tech surveillance and a pounding drumbeat of propaganda to crush hybrid identities. Hong Kong, a still-vibrant if troubled world city, will be harder to bring to heel. Alas, 70 years after its founding, China is hostile even to constrained forms of pluralism. That is why, wherever people have choices, it inspires fear or awe, but not love.

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RESERVE BANK OF INDIA REPORT

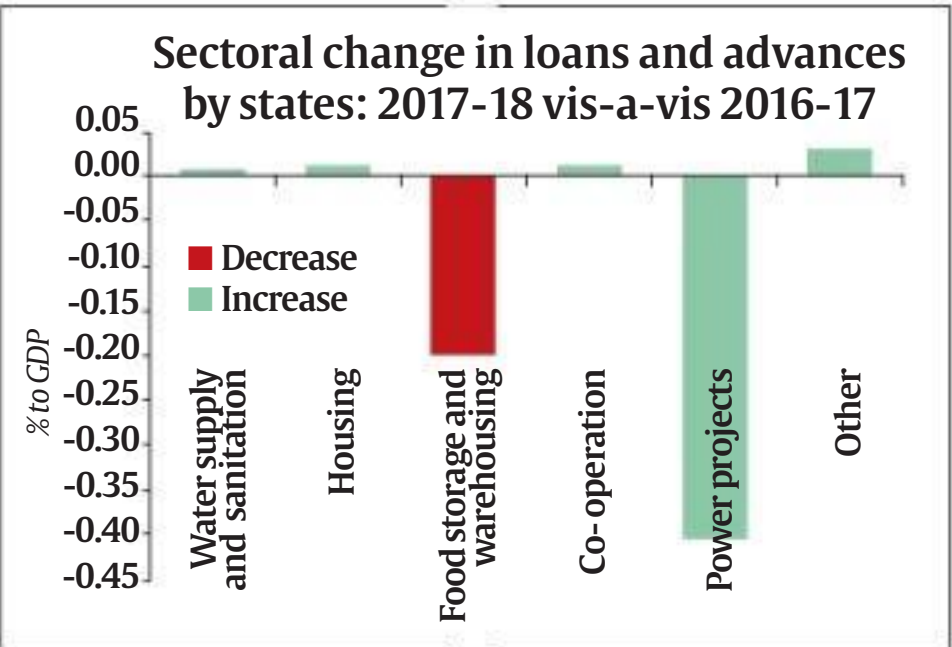
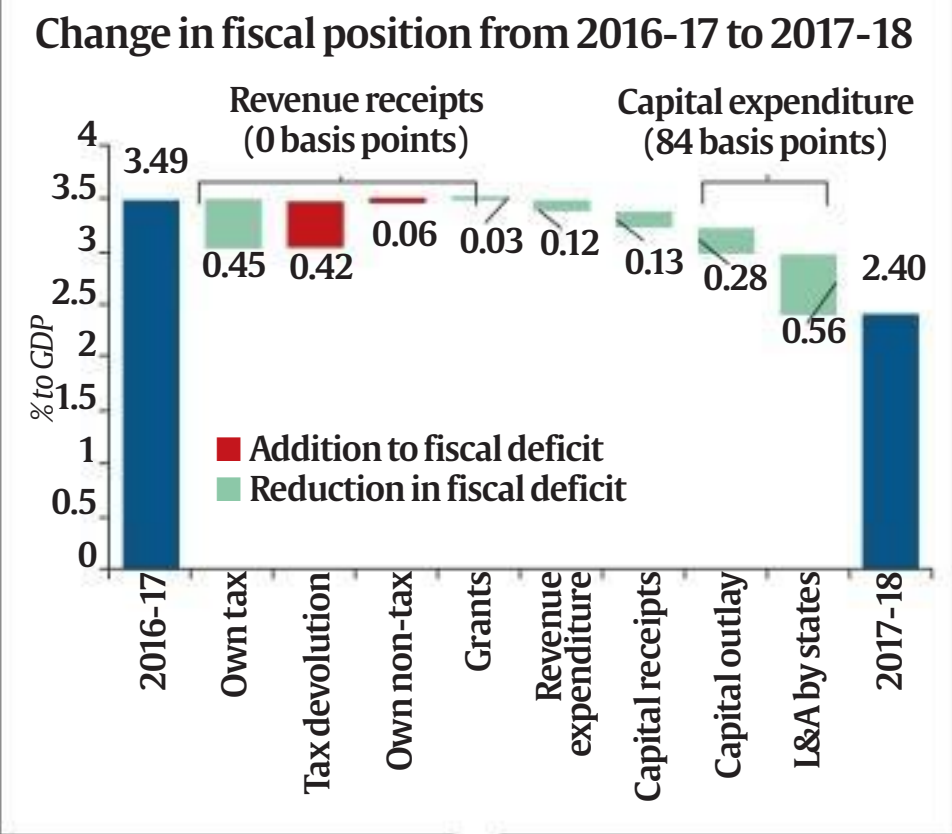
# States improve fiscal position, but with sharp cuts in capex

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

A RESERVE Bank of India study Monday revealed that states' gross fiscal deficit was within the threshold of Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management laws in the last two years, but it was possible due to sharp reduction in capital expenditure by states. The RBI's report on States Finances: A Study of Budgets of 2019-20 said that the outstanding debt of states have risen over the last five years to 25 per cent of Gross Domestic Product, posing medium-term challenges to its sustainability.

"States' gross fiscal deficit (GFD) has remained within the FRBM threshold of 3 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP) during 2017-18 and 2018-19. This has, however, been achieved by sharp retrenchment in expenditures, in particular, capital expenditure. For 2019-20, states have budgeted for a consolidated GFD of 2.6 per cent of GDP with a marginal revenue surplus (as against revenue deficits in the previous three years)," as per the report released Monday.

The report said sharp reduction in capital expenditure by states has potentially adverse implications for the pace and quality of economic development, given the large welfare effects of a much wider interface with the lives of people at the federal level. "Currently, states employ about



five times more people and spend around one and a half times more than the Centre. Moreover, public expenditure by states influences the quality of

physical and social capital infrastructure of the economy," it noted.

The report said states need to combine efforts towards mobilis-

ing higher revenues with strategies to maximise efficiency gains rather than mere increase in tax rates. Unless revenues pick, states will be forced to cut capital expenditure, further stoking the economic slowdown. Reduction in capital expenditure can feed an ever-tightening vicious spiral of austerity deepening the economic downturn which, in turn, cramps fiscal revenues and forces further expenditure reductions and so on.

"States' revenue prospects are confronted with low tax buoyancies, shrinking revenue autonomy under the GST framework and unpredictability associated with transfers of ICGST and grants. Unrealistic revenue forecasts in budget estimates thereby leave no option for states than expenditure compression in even the most productive and employment-generating heads," it said. It noted that states need to gradually harness the GST database to expand the tax base. They also need to review their tariff policies relating to power and irrigation, keeping in mind the breakeven user charges.

The report also warned about risk of off-budget liabilities in the form of guarantees mutating into a contingent risk to debt sustainability even as structural bottlenecks in power distribution continue to foster. States may have to take over higher losses of power distribution companies if they do not show a turnaround in their performance.

## External debt rises by 2.6%

**Mumbai:** India's external debt was placed at \$557.4 billion, recording an increase of \$14.1 billion, or 2.6 per cent, as of June 2019 as against its level at end-March 2019, the RBI has said. Valuation losses due to the depreciation of the US dollar vis-a-

vis Indian rupee and other major currencies were placed at \$1.7 billion. Excluding the valuation effect, the increase in external debt would have been \$12.4 billion instead of \$14.1 billion at end-June 2019 over end-March 2019. **ENS**

# Current account deficit narrows to 2% on higher invisible receipts, lower oil prices

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

AIDED BY higher invisible receipts and lower crude oil prices, India's current account deficit (CAD) at \$14.3 billion, or 2.0 per cent of GDP, in the June quarter of 2019-20 narrowed from \$15.8 billion (2.3 per cent of GDP) in the same period of 2018-19, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said.

However, CAD rose sharply from \$4.6 billion (0.7 per cent of GDP) registered in the preceding quarter amid the spike in gold imports. "The healthy growth in the surplus of services and secondary income, as well as lower crude oil prices helped to restrain the size of the current account deficit in the June quarter, despite a sharp increase in gold imports.

Oil imports rose by a mild 0.4 per cent to \$34.9 billion in Q1 of FY2020 from \$34.7 billion in Q1 FY2019, dampened by the decline of 6.9 per cent in oil prices between these two quarters," said Aditi Nayar, Principal Economist, ICRA. However, gold imports rose by a sharp 35.6 per cent to \$11.4 billion in the June quarter from \$8.4 billion in Q1 FY2019, with the fall in gold prices in the US dollar terms during the period boosting de-

EXPLAINED

## Despite gold import spurt, CAD improved

NOTWITHSTANDING A sharp rise in gold imports, India's current account deficit improved on a year-on-year basis. Higher overseas remittances, FDI, portfolio investments, stable oil imports and ECBs boosted the prospects on the external front. What can push up CAD in the remaining months of the year is a spike in oil prices and capital outflows. CAD is expected to ease appreciably to 1.8 per cent of the GDP in the full year of 2019-20 from 2.1 per cent of GDP in FY2019, unless oil prices record a sustained increase or domestic investment and consumption demand display revival.

mand. The CAD contracted on a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, primarily on account of higher invisible receipts at \$31.9 billion as compared with \$29.9 billion a year ago, the RBI said. Invisible receipt is that part of the balance of trade that refers to services and other products that do not result in the transfer of physical objects. The examples include consulting services, shipping services, tourism and patent license revenues.

Net services receipts increased by 7.3 per cent on a y-o-y basis, mainly on the back of a rise in net

## Fiscal deficit at 78.7% of BE till Aug-end

**New Delhi:** India's fiscal deficit touched Rs 5.54 lakh crore at the end of August, which was 78.7 per cent of the Budget Estimate for 2019-20, official data showed. In absolute terms, the fiscal deficit or the gap between expenditure and revenue was Rs 5,53,840 crore as on August 31, according to the data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA). **PTI**

in Q1 of 2019-20 as against an outflow of \$8.1 billion in Q1 of 2018-19 on account of net purchases in both debt and equity markets.

On the other hand, net inflow on account of external commercial borrowings (ECBs) to India was \$6.3 billion in Q1 of 2019-20 as against an outflow of \$1.5 billion a year ago.

The RBI said there was an accretion of \$14.0 billion to the foreign exchange reserves (on BoP basis) in June quarter as against a depletion of \$11.3 billion in Q1 of 2018-19.

# Best in the business honoured



From Top: FE Best Banks award winners; Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presents Banker of the Year award to Bajaj Finserv Managing Director Sanjiv Bajaj. Also in the frame is Express Group Chairman Viveck Goenka; IndusInd Bank Managing Director & CEO Romesh Sobti receives Lifetime Achievement award from the Finance Minister in Mumbai on Monday. *Nirmal Harindran*



### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Romesh Sobti, MD & CEO, IndusInd Bank

### BANKER OF THE YEAR

Sanjiv Bajaj, MD, Bajaj Finserv

CATEGORY	WINNER
Nationalised Bank	Indian Bank
Private Bank	HDFC Bank
Foreign Bank	HSBC India
Small Finance Bank	Equitas Small Finance Bank
NBFC	Bajaj Finance
NBFC	CreditAccess Grameen
Home Loan Product	State Bank of India
Savings Product	Kotak Mahindra Bank
Digital Bank	Axis Bank
Fintech	Razorpay
Fintech	CreditVidya
Fintech	Loan Frame
Fintech	Acko General Insurance
Fintech	National Payments Corporation of India

### BORROWING IN THE CURRENT FISCAL

# Govt sticks to FY20 Budget target; plans for overseas sovereign bonds not firmed up

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

ANNOUNCING ITS debt raising programme for October-March period, the government Monday said its borrowing in the current fiscal will be within the budgeted Rs 7.1 lakh crore. The Centre indicated that it will stick to the fiscal deficit glide path despite Rs 1.45 lakh crore worth of corporate tax cuts. The Finance Ministry, however, has not firmed up plans so far to raise funds in overseas markets through issuance of sovereign bonds in foreign currency.

With over 62 per cent of the budgeted borrowing being already completed in six months to September 30, Economic Affairs Secretary Atanu Chakraborty said the remaining half of the current fiscal will see the remainder of Rs 2.68 lakh crore being borrowed in rupee denomination.

Despite the recent tax cuts hitting government finances, he said the government is sticking to the glide path of keeping fiscal deficit at 3.3 per cent of the GDP in the current fiscal. During the first half of this fiscal, the government has raised Rs 4.42 lakh crore, 62.25 per cent of the total borrowing. "Rs 2.68 lakh crore borrowing indicates that the fiscal glide path as indicated in the budget is being maintained," he said.

On overseas sovereign bonds, he said, the bonds to be raised in external currency are decided on the basis of current price, market appetite and market conditions and related issue and the structuring of the bond itself. "We need very careful calibrations and deliberations before it enters in the market. The work on that is presently going on to work out the structures and various pros and cons and it is a process

**With over 62% of the budgeted borrowing already completed in six months, DEA Secretary Atanu Chakraborty said the remaining half of the fiscal will see remainder of Rs 2.68 lakh crore being borrowed in rupee denomination**

which is long. For this year, all the borrowing of the government will presently be in rupee-denominated bonds," the secretary said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced in the Budget about government's plans to raise funds abroad in overseas currency through issuance of sovereign bonds.

As regards the second half borrowing, he said, 37.75 per cent of the total gross borrowing will be spread over 17 weekly auctions of Rs 16,000 crore each.

However, it will be Rs 14,000 crore in the last two auctions. The government will issue floating rate bonds to the extent of 10 per cent of gross issuances during the year.

Borrowing through treasury-bills is being planned in such a way as to result in net outflows of Rs 20,000 crore during the third quarter of the fiscal. Switching of government securities will continue while buyback of securities will also be performed in the second half, the secretary added. The central bank also provides funds to the government under Ways and Means Advances (WMA) mechanism to help it tide over short-term mismatch in receipts and payments.



# Mumbai Police registers FIR against senior officials of HDIL, PMC Bank

EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE MUMBAI Police Monday registered an FIR on charges of cheating, forgery and criminal conspiracy against executive chairman of Housing Development and Infrastructure Limited (HDIL) Rakesh Wadhawan, vice chairman and managing director of the company Sarang Wadhawan, former managing director of Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank Joy Thomas, and the bank's chairman Waryam Singh, in addition to unidentified officials of PMC Bank and HDIL.

The offence was registered on the basis of the complaint given by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), following the collapse of the bank. The RBI had stepped in and put restrictions on withdrawals after the crisis at the bank came to light last week owing mainly to massive non-performing assets (NPA) that were underreported.

An officer said that an offence under sections 409, 420, 465, 466, 471 and 120B of the Indian Penal Code that deal with cheating, for-

## PIL in high court challenging RBI directive limiting withdrawals

*Mumbai:* Nine account holders of PMC Bank and an NGO have filed a PIL before the Bombay High Court challenging the RBI's directive capping the withdrawal limit for depositors at Rs 10,000 for six months. The petitioners are likely to mention the PIL on Tuesday before the bench of Chief Justice Pradeep Nandrajog and Justice Bharati Dangre.

The NGO, Consumer

gery and conspiracy was registered by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Mumbai Police. He added that the FIR was taken after a complaint was given by RBI. As per the complaint, Thomas, Singh and other officials along with HDIL director Wadhawan — from 2008 to August 2019 — took loans from PMC Bank's Bhandup branch which later turned an NPA. "Inspite of the loans turning into NPAs, they were not declared

Action Network (CAN), and the account holders, in their PIL stated that the RBI has initiated an "arbitrary and irrational" direction without disclosing any reasons to all depositors without any prior intimation.

It said that the six-month restriction imposed by the RBI on depositors is detrimental to account holders at large who have invested their money in PMC bank. **ENS**

as such and this information was deliberately kept hidden from the RBI," the officer said.

He added that fake bank documents were also created that showed that a lower amount had been given out on loan to HDIL. The documents were then presented to RBI, thereby massively underreporting values of NPAs.

Another senior officer said they are in the process of identifying others persons involved.

## CENTRE COMMITS ₹560 CR TO STATE GOVERNMENTS

# Changes in Apprenticeship Rules notified; compensation increased

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE CENTRE on Monday announced a commitment of Rs 560 crore to state governments to promote demand-driven, industry-linked skill development at the ground level.

The government has also notified changes in Apprenticeship Rules (1992) with an aim to increase skilled manpower in the country, and raise monetary compensation of apprentices.

Union Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Minister Mahendra Nath Pandey made the announcement at the Annual National Conference of State Ministers on Monday.

"Skill development is a demand-driven subject and thus it is important that we give more power to the states to ensure quality and market relevant outcome.

### HIRING LIMIT OF APPRENTICES RAISED

■ As per the Apprenticeship (Amendment) Rules, 2019, the hiring limit of apprentices has been raised to 15 per cent of total strength of an establishment, and the minimum stipends have been doubled to between ₹5,000 & ₹9,000 per month

■ The stipend for graduate apprentices or degree apprentices has been increased to Rs 9,000 per month. For those who are school pass outs — between Class 5th and 9th — the stipend has been increased to Rs 5,000 per month

It is important that we map and strike a balance between the traditional and new age skills, right at the district level and also target a shift from unorganised to the organised market through our Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program," Pandey said.

The minister further said that states should ensure integration of skills right at the school level so that the youth can decide which

skills to hone.

He also observed that the government, both at the central and state levels, should work towards a common standardised assessment system.

Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship RK Singh said that states should consistently undertake environmental scan for market relevant skills.

# Suppressing criticism a sure fire recipe for policy mistakes: Rajan

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

PEOPLE IN authority have to tolerate criticism and suppressing criticism is a sure fire recipe for policy mistakes, former Reserve Bank of India Governor Raghuram Rajan said Monday. In an essay on LinkedIn, Rajan said governments that suppress public criticism do themselves a gross disservice.

"People in authority have to tolerate criticism. Undoubtedly, some of the criticism, including in the press, is ill-informed, motivated, and descends into ad-hominem personal attacks. I have certainly had my share of those in past jobs. However, suppressing criticism is a sure fire recipe for policy mistakes. If every critic gets a phone call from a government functionary asking them to back off, or gets targeted by the ruling party's troll army, many will tone down their criticism. The government will then live in a pleasant make-believe environment, until the harsh truth can no longer be denied," Rajan wrote in his essay.

He added that constant criticism allows periodic course corrections to policy, and public criticism indeed gives government bureaucrats the room to speak truth to their political masters. "Conversely, fulsome public praise crowds out the possibility that the government can be self-critical — even a whisper of dissent stands out. Governments that suppress public criticism do themselves a gross disservice."

He said understanding history is good but using history to thump our own chest reflects great insecurity. "Understanding our history is, obviously, a good thing, but using history to thump our own chest reflects great insecurity and

## In an essay on LinkedIn, the former RBI Governor said governments that suppress criticism do themselves a disservice

can even be counterproductive. It does nothing for enhancing our current capabilities. It was our poverty in the past and continuing shortcomings in our still-developing academic, corporate, and government research systems that keep us from the frontier."

In his introductory note for the essay, Rajan — currently teaching at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business — referred to the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, as well as recalled jurist Nani Palkhivala, whose birth centenary is approaching. "At times like the present ones, we must remember that what makes India strong is its diversity, debate, and tolerance. What makes it weak is narrow mindedness, obscurantism, and divisiveness," he wrote.

Rajan also mentioned the suspicion for foreign ideas and foreigners as one of the concerns. "In the "not invented here" syndrome lies stagnation. We cannot be so insecure that we believe allowing foreign competition will demolish our culture, our ideas, and our firms. Indeed, it is by erecting protective walls that we have always fallen behind, making us susceptible to total colonisation. There is no need for us to be slaves to anything foreign, but it is best that we examine everything, domestic or foreign, dispassionately, and see what is worth keeping. It is only then that we will have a dynamic society, adapting to the needs of the times," he said.

# After setback at WTO, India likely to 'rework' more export schemes

BANIKINKAR PATTANAYAK  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

WITH INDIA losing a key trade dispute with the United States at the World Trade Organization (WTO) on export subsidies, it will likely expedite a process to replace or restructure various WTO-incompatible export schemes in the coming months, a source said.

A WTO dispute settlement panel is learnt to have ruled in favour of the US that had claimed that New Delhi offered illegal export subsidies and "thousands of Indian companies are receiving benefits totaling over \$7 billion annually from these programmes". These export subsidies were in violation of the WTO's subsidies and countervailing measures (SCM) pact, the US had alleged.

India is awaiting the panel's final report and its precise findings, which is expected soon, said another source, indicating that a detailed impact assessment would be done once the report was received. Analysts say what comes as a blessing in disguise for India is the US move to block judges to the appellate tribunal, which will

be crippled with just one judge left after December 11.

In that case, the fate of any appeal by India against a verdict in favour of the US remains uncertain. Unless a decision is made by the tribunal on the appeal, the findings of the WTO's dispute panel cannot be binding on India, they have added.

In a business-as-usual scenario, though, once the dispute panel's final report is made public, India would be required to appeal the ruling before an appellate body within 30 days. If the appellate body upholds the panel's ruling, India will have to stop the export promotion schemes within a mutually-agreed-upon time frame, which is often a year. Here, too, India will have time to comply if it starts the restructuring of controversial programmes early. Last March, the US had challenged many Indian export subsidy programmes, including MEIS, Export Oriented Units Scheme; sector-specific schemes, including Electronics Hardware Technology Parks Scheme; special economic zones; Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme; and duty free imports for re-exports. **FE**

# Domestic natural gas price slashed by over 12%

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

THE CENTRE Monday cut domestic natural gas price for the first time in two-and-a-half years but rates for gas produced from difficult fields like Reliance Industries' under-development fields in KG-D6 block are still at almost the same level as the one fixed during the Congress-led UPA regime.

The price of most of the natural gas produced by state-owned ONGC and Oil India Ltd, which account for bulk of India's existing gas output, was cut to \$3.23 per million British thermal unit for the six-month period beginning October 1, from \$3.69 as of now, according to the oil ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC). This is the first reduction in rate since April 1, 2017. Simultaneously, the government cut the price of gas produced from difficult fields to \$8.43 from \$9.32, the PPAC notification said.

Prices of natural gas are set every six months — on April 1 and October 1 each year. The rates also decide the revenue of gas production companies.

# At AGM, Anil Ambani says Reliance Capital to exit lending business

ENSECONOMIC BUREAU  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

RELIANCE CAPITAL Chairman Anil Ambani on Monday said the company will exit the lending business as it faced "collateral damage" due to a slowing economy and a lending crisis in the financial sector. Addressing the company's annual general meeting (AGM), Ambani said that he expects the resolution plans for Reliance Home Finance and Reliance Commercial Finance to be completed by December.

"This will bring lower the Reliance Capital debt by about Rs 25,000 crore," he said. The company's shares fell 12.32 per cent to Rs 24.55 on the BSE Monday. Ambani said the company has suffered over the last six months as collateral damage due to crisis in the financial services industry, irrational action of rating agencies and auditors, as well as slowdown in economy. The Reliance Group has repaid over Rs 35,000 crore in the last four months and will repay another Rs 15,000 crore by next March.

In June, auditors raised several red flags around the company's

## "It is unfortunate that during all this noise, the true value of our businesses has not been recognised"

ANIL AMBANI

CHAIRMAN, RELIANCE CAPITAL

fourth-quarter results, including a lack of clarity in related party transactions and accounting methodology.

Apart from lending, Reliance Capital has interests in asset management and general insurance businesses. The company has been divesting assets this year. It reduced its stake in Reliance Nippon Life Asset Management to just over 4 per cent from about a quarter. "It is unfortunate that during all this noise, the true value of our businesses has not been recognised," Ambani said.

At the Reliance Communication AGM, resolution professional Ashish Nanavaty said it has received claims worth Rs 84,268 crore from their creditors and the quality of the resolution plan will depend on what the investors make of the claim.



## MARUTI LAUNCHES MINI-SUV S-PRESSO

Kenichi Ayukawa, MD and CEO, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI), along with Shashank Srivastava, executive director - Sales and Marketing, MSI, at the launch of the mini SUV S-PRESSO, priced between Rs 3.69 lakh and Rs 4.91 lakh (ex-showroom), in New Delhi, Monday. **PTI**

# Sebi eases buyback rules for companies with NBFC and housing finance arms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 30

MARKETS REGULATOR Sebi has eased its norms for buyback of shares by listed firms, especially those having subsidiaries in housing finance and NBFC segments. The notification comes after the board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) approved norms in this regard in August.

The repurchase of shares by listed companies is governed by the Buyback Regulations of Sebi as well as the Companies Act.

Among the main conditions that the companies need to follow, the buyback offer cannot exceed 25 per cent of the aggregate paid-up capital and free reserves of the company, but shareholders' ap-

proval is required through a special resolution in case the size exceeds 10 per cent.

Also, a buyback is permitted only if the ratio of the aggregate of secured and unsecured debts owed by the company after the buyback is not more than twice the paid-up capital and free reserves, unless a higher debt-to-equity ratio is specified under the Companies Act.

While Sebi takes into account financial statements on stand-alone as well as consolidated basis for evaluating the buyback thresholds, issues have been raised recently with regard to considering consolidated financial statements for companies with subsidiaries having higher debt due to their presence in businesses like NBFC and housing finance segments.

## BRIEFLY

### US Commerce Secy to meet Goyal this week

*New Delhi:* US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal are likely to meet on October 3 here to discuss trade and investment related issues, an official said. The meeting assumes significance as India and the United States are negotiating a bilateral trade deal to boost two-way commerce. The trade deal talks were recently held in Washington between Goyal and US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer.

### IRCTC IPO subscribed 81% on Day 1

*New Delhi:* The initial public offering of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) was subscribed about 81 per cent on the opening day of bidding on Monday. IRCTC's public offer to raise about Rs 645 crore received bids for 1.63 crore shares as against the total issue size of two crore shares, according to exchanges' data. The non-institutional investors category was subscribed 21 per cent and that of retail individual investors 2.23 times.

### Rajesh Menon is new director general of SIAM

*New Delhi:* The Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) on Monday said it has appointed Rajesh Menon as its new Director General. Menon, succeeds Vishnu Mathur who is superannuating. He was earlier the Deputy Director General at the Confederation of Indian Industry, which he had joined in 1994. "I am sure that Rajesh will be able to provide the leadership to SIAM that will help the industry achieve its objective of growth with responsibility," SIAM president Rajan Wadhra said.

### India's real GDP growth likely to be 5.2%: EIU

*New Delhi:* India's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth for the current financial year is likely to be 5.2 per cent as muted business confidence, subdued demand conditions and concerns in the financial sector are hurting investments, according to a report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

### Strike by central trade unions on January 8

*New Delhi:* Central trade unions on Monday gave a call for a nationwide general strike on January 8 against government's alleged failure to respond to demands of workers. As many as 10 central unions announced the strike in national open mass convention of workers, as per a joint statement issued by them. **PTI**

# Chinese companies rethink US IPOs after delisting threat by Trump

SAMUEL SHEN & JOSH HORWITZ  
SHANGHAI, SEPTEMBER 30

BESTBOND, A Chinese apartment rental company, had been planning on a Nasdaq flotation in one to two years but as US-China trade tensions ratcheted higher, the Hong Kong stock exchange emerged as a possible candidate. Now, it's firmly on the table.

"We're having second thoughts," CFO Wang Jia said, adding that Hong Kong, despite being beset with political unrest, had become more attractive after news emerged on Friday that US President Donald Trump's administration was looking at delisting Chinese companies from US bourses.

Bestbond, based in Nanjing, eastern China, still prefers Nasdaq as it is a higher profile, more liq-

## Decoupling will harm both sides: China

*Beijing:* China warned on Monday of instability in international markets from any "decoupling" of China and the US, after sources said the Trump administration was considering delisting Chinese firms from US exchanges. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said he had noted the reports on delisting and the response from the US Treasury. **REUTERS**

uid market that would likely offer better valuations, but the company cannot afford to have its eggs in just one basket, Wang said.

While a US Treasury official has said Trump's administration was not considering blocking Chinese companies from US listings "at this time", the possibility it may do so has resulted in much handwringing by mainland firms that had been looking at a US IPO. "Too many calls. Every client is worried," said Terence Lin, CEO of World Financial Holding Group, a boutique investment bank which helps Chinese companies with Nasdaq listings.

Two sources said the US move was part of a broader idea to limit US investment in Chinese firms, while one source has said that it is motivated by security concerns.

Lin believes, however, that Trump's threat would be extremely difficult to implement legally and is merely a negotiation tactic in the rapidly escalating trade war between the two biggest economies. **REUTERS**



# Classifieds

## PERSONAL

It is for general information that I PRADEEP KUMAR S/o HEMRAJ SINGH residing at H.No.-A-525, Gokul Puri, Delhi-110094 inform that name of my father has been wrongly written as HEM RAJ in my Educational Documents. The actual name of my father is HEMRAJ SINGH, which may be amended accordingly.

0040514439-1

It is for general information that I Hariom S/o Jaiveer Singh R/o-X/3888 Gali No.8, Shanti Mohalla,Gandhi Nagar Delhi-110031,inform that name of mine hasbeen wrongly-written as Sachin in Saving Bank A/c No.1682101023352 Canara Bank, Krishna Nagar Branch Delhi-110051.The actual name of mine is Hariom which may be amended accordingly.

0040514530-10

I,Seema Dhankar@Seema,D/O- Satvir Dhankar,W/o-Surender Singh,R/o-RZ-C-1/11,Vinodpuri,Vijay Enclave,Dabri,Delhi-45,have Changed to my name Seema Singh for,all Purposes

0040514504-2

I,Jhantu Islam,S/o-Amirul Islam,R/o-E-202,Second-floor,Gali.No.7,Khasra,No.61,S hasstri Park,Near Buland Masjid,Delhi-53,have changed my name Bagbul Islam for,all Purposes

0040514504-1

I,Aastik Kumar Jha S/o Ravinder Jha R/O-C-457, Inder Enclave,Phase-1,Kirari Delhi-86,have changed my name to Aastik Kumar for all future purpose.

0040514452-1

I,Aarti Sharma R/o-770-8, 2ndFloor, Near-Liberty Cinema, Circle, New Market, Devnagar, Karol-Bagh, N.Delhi-110005,have changed my minor son's name Shaurya Solanki to Shaurya.

0040514546-3

I,sunil Kumar S/o Prem Singh C/o Mohammed Abdul R/o-A101, A-Block Raja-Vihar Badli-Industrial Area North-West Delhi-110042, have changed my name to Mohammed Umar, permanently.

0040514539-3

I, Visha Pushkar D/o Vipin Kumar R/o-H.No.522, Block-I, Shakurpur, Delhi-110034, have changed my name to Visha Pushkar for all purposes.

0040514521-5

I, Vinata Thakur W/O Dhanesh Kumar R/O-M8/A7, Jhulelal Aparment, Pitampura, Delhi Changed Name to Vinita., Permanently.

0040514521-2

I, Rubena W/o Mohammad Ateeq R/O-D-2/53, Hari-Enclave-1, Kirari, Delhi-110086, have changed my name, from Rubena to Rubena Parwin.,for all purpose.

0040514559-4

I, Veronica Dung Dung W/o Sushil Dung Dung R/o-Chilla-Village Tanchuma-Mohalla, Mayur-Vihar-1, Delhi-110091,have changed my name to Veronica Kullu, for future purposes.

0040514521-9

I,Surinder Singh S/o S.Sampuran Singh R/o:WZ-64B/1, Gurunanak-Nagar, GaliNo-3, New Delhi-18,Inform that My Name has been Wrongly-written as Suren-der Singh in School Certificate of My Daughter Namely Kawalpreet Kaur My actual Name is Surinder Singh.

0040514530-9

I,Sudeep Jain S/O Late. Shri Hames Kumar Jain Resident Of F-142, Laxmi Nagar, Mangal Bazar, Delhi-110092, Have Changed My Name To Chetan Jain Due To Astrological Reasons For All Future Purpose.

0040514530-5

I, Sonu Joshi D/o Sh. Bhuwan Chandra Joshi W/o Mr. Girish Chandra Joshi R/o Plot No. 835, Flat No. A-3, Green Street, Sector-5, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201010. Have changed my name from Sonu Joshi to Pooja Joshi for all future purposes.

0040514427-1

I,Shakti Kumar S/o-Kelash Chandra Gupta R/o-Flat No.30, Ekta-Apartments, Geeta-Colony, Delhi-110031,have changed my name to Shakti Kumar Gupta permanently.

0040514546-1

I, Seema mainrai w/o SAHDEV KUMAR MAIN RAI R/O-326 SEC 23 NIT-FARIDABAD HAVE CHANGE NAME TO SEEMA DEV MAINRAI.,FOR ALL.

0040514530-4

I,Sanjeev Kumar Duggal S/O D.N.Duggal born on 8/11/1966 residing at 168,1st Floor Block-A,Raja Garden, New Delhi-110015 have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar vide affidavit dated 25/09/2019 at New Delhi.

0050156076-1

I, SACHIDANANDA DAS BURMA S/o Chandrasekhar Das Burma, R/o 28/2nd floor, Woodstock, Nirvana Country, Sector 50, Gurgaon-122001, have changed my name to SACHIN DAS BURMA for all purposes.

0040514527-1

I, Rohitkumar Ramji Thakkar, S/o/Ramji Visanjai Thakkar, residing at 38-704, Dreams, LBS Marg, Bhadnup West, Mumbai 400078, have changed my name to Rohit Ramji Thakkar for all purposes.

0070676600-1

I, Rishi Kumar Singhal S/o-Krishan Avtar Singhal R/o-301, Elephanta Heights, Plot No.41, Sector-10, Dwarka, Delhi-110075have changed my name to Rishi Singhal for all purposes.

0040514440-1

I, Rishi Kumar S/o-Krishna Avtar R/o-301, Elephanta Heights, Plot No.41, Sector-10, Dwarka, Delhi-110075, have changed my name to Rishi Singhal for all purposes.

0040514438-1

I, Regina Roberts Andrews D/o Rajender Frankleen Roberts R/O T02/801, Paras Tiera, Sec-137, Noida Expressway, Noida(UP) 213034 have changed my name to Regina Cheryl Roberts.

0040514546-5

I, Rashmi Bhaktikant Khare D/O-Dr.Ram Sanehi shrivastava Resident of 552, Eternia Mahagun,Modern Society,Sector-78,Gautam budh Nagar,Noida,have changed my name to Rashmi Khare.

0040514452-5

I, Upender S/o Ramakant Tiwari R/o C-177, Gali No-9, Shastri Park, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Upender Tiwari.

0040514559-1

I, Rakesh Bala W/o Satish R/o-Rataul, Baghpatt, U.P.-250101, have changed my name to Rekha all future purpose.

0040514452-3

I, Rajeev S/O Shyam Sunder Makhija R/o 3/73 Gali no-3, Nirankari Colony Delhi-09, have changed my name to Rajeev Makhija for all purposes.

0040514502-1

I, Radha Charan S/O Late Shri.Bidha Ram R/o-D-58, Block-D, Pandav-Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to Radha Charan Jora for all future purposes.

0040514521-8

I, Puspba Bansal W/o Anand Gupta R/o-B-30, Krishan-Vihar, Pooth-Kalan, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Palak Gupta., for all purposes.

0040514521-4

I, Puneet Kheda S/O Late.Mahesh Khera R/O-Block-B.H.No.1477 JahangiriPuri Delhi-110033 Have Changed Name To Puneet Khera.

0040514546-7

I, Preeti Chaturvedi R/o 905-G, Royal Legacy Apartment, C-3, Sector-18, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad, UP-201012, have changed my minor daughter's name from Sonalika to Sonalika Chaturvedi, for all purposes.

0040514434-1

I, Parashar Dogra S/o Sh.Rajesh Kumar, R/O H.No.E-58, Gali No 10, Brahampuri, Delhi-110053, have changed my name Parashar Dogra to Parasher Dogra for all future purposes.

0040514437-1

I, PREETI GARG W/O VIBHOR GARG, residing at-42, Priyadarshni-Vihar Part-1, Delhi-110009, have changed the name of my ANJALI GARG aged-42 years and shall hereafter be known as PREETI GARG.

0040514539-5

I, Neeraj Rani D/o Sh.Pawan Kumar W/o Sh.Rakesh Kumar Jindal R/o Flat No.92, Lok Nayak Appartment, Rohini, Sector-9, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Meenu Jindal for all purposes.

0040514426-1

I, Naveen Gupta S/O Banwari Lal Gupta R/O-160, Block-D, DakshinPuri, New Delhi-110062,Have Changed My Name To Naveen.,For All, Future Purposes.

0040514559-2

I, Naseem W/o Sh.,Saleemuiddin R/o-Y-48 A, Block-Y, New Ranjit-Nagar, D.D.A-Flats, Delhi-110088, have changed my name to Naseem Begam., for all purposes.

0040514539-4

I, Nareesh Jagmohan Kaushik S/o Jag Ram Sharma R/O-28A/1, Jia Sarai, Hauz-Khas, Delhi-110016, that Naresh Jagmohan Kaushik and Nareesh Kaushik are one and the same person.

0040514521-7

I, Narendar Garg S/o Harish Chand Garg R/o H.No-440 2nd Floor, Sector-3, Vasundhara, Ghaziabad U.P.-201021, have changed my name to Narendar Kumar Garg.

0040514435-1

I, NEELOFUR ASLAM W/o Mohammad Aslam Javed R/O C-14, 1st Floor, Hazrat Nizamuddin West New Delhi-110013 have changed my name to NEELO ASLAM for all purposes.

0040514472-1

I, Mohd Sabir S/o Shabbir Ahmed R/O 1934, Mohalla Qubristan, Turkman Gate, Delhi-110006 have changed my name from Sabir Husain to Mohd Sabir permanently.

0040514482-1

I, Mohd Kasif Siddiqui R/o I-48, 4th floor, Thokar no.4, Abul Fazal ENC-1, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-25 have changed my name to Kasif Siddiqui

0070676616-1

I, Manish Kumar Pandey S/O Late.Jaiprakash Pandey R/o:R2H-39B, Part-2, GaliNo-10, Sitapuri, New Delhi-45,Have Changed My Name to Manish Pandey & Correct Date-Of-Birth is 10/10/1977.

0040514530-8

I, Baljot S/o Onkar Singh R/o 14/110, Double Storey, Kabool Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Baljot Singh for all future purposes.

0040514423-1

I, Manju W/o JC8033481P Rank Hav. Jagdish R/o/Vill. Kushak, Teh. & Distt. Palwal confirm that in my husband's army record my name is wrongly mentioned Manju Devi & D.O.B. 11.06.1979. But my real name is Manju & D.O.B. 01.01.1981.

0040514441-1

I,Maiden Name Sandeep K Cheema And Sandeep Sohri After Marriage, W/O. Hardev Singh Sohri R/o 149, Dhaula Kuan Part-1, Defence Officers Enclave, Delhi Cantt-10 have changed my name to Sandip Cheema.

0040514546-2

I,Madan Mohan Sati S/O-Shanker Datt Sati R/O-F-13, Jangpura-Extension, Delhi-110014,,have changed the name of my minor daughter from Riddhima to Riddhima Sati.

0040514521-10

I,MUSHEERUDDIN S/O ISRAIL MOLLIICK R/o Gosainpur, Birbhun West Bengal-713220, inform that my father and mother name wrongly mentioned in my all documents as Mohammed Israil and Taslima Bibi. But correct name is ISRAIL MOLLIICK and FIHA BIBI for all purposes.

0040514455-1

I,Lakshay Choudhary S/o Sh. Jagdish Choudhary, R/o Uu 66, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, has changed my name to Lakshay Choudhary for all purposes. Both are same person.

0040514462-3

I, Krishan Kumar S/o Sh. Kedar Mal R/o House No.RZF-1-A, Gali No.42, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, inform that my name wrongly written in my minor son's school record as Krishan Kumar Aggarwal. But my actual name is Krishan Kumar, for all purposes.

0040514432-1

I, Kalpana Sharma, W/o Shri.Jagmohan Sharma R/o/WP-260, Wazirpur-Village, Delhi-110052, inform that Kalpana Sharma and Kalpana both are same person.

0040514559-3

I,Jasmin Bhardwaj D/o Bhupinder Singh Paddam R/O-C-401, Prakriti Apartment, 4th floor, Plot No-26, Sector-06, Dwarka, Delhi-110075. I have changed my name from Jasmin Bhardwaj to Jasmin Kaur, for all purposes.

0040514431-1

I,Jagdish Chowdhary S/o Late Sh. Katu Ram Choudhary, R/o Uu 66, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, has changed my name to Jagdish Choudhary for all purposes. Both are same person.

0040514462-2

I,Iulia Spiridonova (dob 12.07.1990) W/o, Alexander Maurya R/O 7066, B-10, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070 have changed my name to Iulia Maurya for all purposes.

0040514546-8

I, Harish Kashyap S/o Yudhvir Singh R/O H.No.709, Gali No.5, Block-B, Baba-Colony Burari, Delhi-110084, have changed my name to Harish Singh.

0040514530-3

I, Girish S/O Dharam pal R/O-D-200-201, Top Floor Freedom Fighter-Enclave, Gate-No.4, Neb Sarai, Delhi,have changed my name to Girish Kukreja

0040514422-1

I,Geeta Aggarwal W/O Sandeep Kumar R/O-Flat no.193, Gh-8, Paschim-Vihar, Delhi-110087, Have Changed My Name To Geeta Goel.

0040514559-6

I,Ex- NK(TS) No- 9085623M, Ab. Qayoum Chanchi, S/O:- Noor ud din, R/O- Batpura Balhama, Tehsil/ District -Kupwara, In my service records, name of my son has been wrongly mentioned as Vasim Qayoum instead of Waseem Quyoum Gujar Chachi as per school records. It needs correction. Objections be filed to JAKLI RC within seven days.

0020393927-1

I, Dhanesh Thakur Alias Dinesh Kumar S/O Late Shri. Topandash R/O-M8/A7, Jhulelal-Aparment, Pitampura, Delhi. Changed Name to Dhanesh Kumar Permanently.

0040514521-1

I, Manju Bhasin D/o Ishwer Chand Chopra R/O-D-255,Anand Vihar Delhi-110092,have changed my name to Manju Chopra Permanently.

0040514452-4

I, Deepa Chowdhary W/o Sh. Jagdish Choudhary, R/o Uu 66, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034, has changed my name to Deepa Choudhary for all purposes. Both are same person.

0040514462-1

I,Dayawati W/o-Harish Yadav R/O-272, Naharpur-Village, Rohini, Sector-7, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Renu for all purposes.

0040514521-3

I, Charan Pal S/o Ram Narayan R/o 9/209, Ghass Mandi Saraswati Bhandar, Gandhi Nagar, Delhi-110031 have changed my name to Charan Pal Arora, for all future purposes.

0040514507-1

I, S. Rama Krishnan Potty, S/O L. Subramanian Potty R/O-B-174 Gujranwala Town, Part-I, Delhi-110009 inform that the name of mine and my father have been wrongly written in my Indian Passport and other documents as Subramaniyan Potty Rama Krishnan Potty and Lekshminarayanan Potty Subramanian Potty, but our correct and actual name is S. Rama Krishnan Potty & L. Subramanian Potty respectively, for all future purpose and records.

0040514485-1

I, Baljit Singh S/o Kuljit Singh R/o-D-69, Fateh Nagar,Jail Road, Delhi-110058,have changed my name to Baljeet Singh

0040514452-2

I,Asha spouse of JC-669335A Sub/clk(SD) Pushkar Singh, R/O H.No.WZ-3332, Second Floor, Street No.14, Sadh Nagar, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110045, have changed my name from Asha to Asha Basera and my correct date of birth is 02-07-1982 instead of 17-07-1982. vide affidavit dated 28-09-2019.

0040514436-1

I, Ankit Khakholia, R/O-B-2102, Ats-Haciendas, AhinsaKhand-1, Indrapuram, Ghaziabad, U.P.201014, Changed My Minor Son Name Akshaj To Akshaj Khakholia.

0040514559-5

I, Akram S/O Munsi Ahmad H.No-A-45 Gali No-1 Bhagirathi-Vihar Karawal Nagar,Delhi-110094. Have Changed My Name To Akram Ahmad.

0040514530-6

I,Aarti Sharma R/o-770-8, 2ndFloor, Near-Liberty Cinema, Circle, New Market, Devnagar, Karol-Bagh, N.Delhi-110005, have changed my minor son's name Shaurya Solanki to Shaurya.

0040514546-4

I Srishiti D/o Ajendra Kumar R/o shahjuddi, Post- Shoro, Muzaffarnagar 251001, have changed my name to Sarsti, for all purposes.

0040514478-1

I Raj Kumar Rana S/O-Rattan Singh R/OH.No.-127/2 Vpo-Ghevara Delhi-110081.Want To Change My Name Rajkanwar To Raj Kumar Rana In Revenue-Record Because My Correct And Actual-Name Is Raj Kumar Rana.

0040514530-7

I Praveen Kumar S/O Shri.Surender Kumar R/o-D-96, Block-D Gali No-1 Swaroop-Nagar Delhi-110042., inform that Name of Mine has been Wrongly written as PARVEEN KUMAR in my Driving License No.DL1120090041214, Conductor Licence No.DL112009CL71591 and my driver's Badge No.P111401177,The Actual Name of my mine is PRAVEEN KUMAR which may be amended accordingly.

0040514539-1

I Neetu Rani W/O. Hitesh Dang R/O. 71/16, Prem Nagar, Jail road, New Delhi-11058 have changed my name to Neetu Dang for all purposes.

0040514530-2

I Manu Tyagi W/O Tarun Goel R/O H.No-C-125, Prashant-Vihar Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Manu Goel.

0040514530-1

I Jagveer S/o Shri.Mam Chand R/O-G-15/1 Sanjay-Colony Okhala Phase-2 New Delhi-110020,Have Changed my Daughter's Name,From Gita Devi to Gita, for All Purpose.

0040514539-2

I,Dolly, W/o Deepak R/O D-490, Second Floor, Tagor-Garden Extn. New Delhi-110027, have changed my name to Anita.

0040514521-6

I Preeti Jaiswal R/O 418 DDA flats Badapur New Delhi 110044 Have changed my name to Preeti Tiwari.

0070676619-1

I Arvind Sharma S/o Shri Ravinder Kumar Sharma R/O H.No.333, Pocket-5, Sec 22, Rohini, Delhi-86 declares that Arvind, Arvind Kumar, Arvind Kumar Sharma are the names of same person and will be known as ArvindSharma in future.

0070676589-1

I Anam Mansoor W/O Mohammed Saqib R/O-9993 Gali-Nalwali Nawab Ganj Azad, Market Delhi-110006. Have Changed Name To Anam Munsoor.

0040514546-6

It is for general information that I, Inder Singh Bhatti S/o Late Sh. Ram Karan R/O Quarter No.402, Type-II, Sector-2, Sadiq Nagar, New Delhi-110049 inform that name of mine has been wrongly written as Inder Singh in my Educational Documents/Service Book. The actual name of mine are Inder Singh Bhatti respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

0040514510-1

It is notified for the information that my Original Qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Senior Secondary Examination of year 2010 and Roll No. 6165449 issued by CBSE; and Intermediate Examination of year 2012, Roll No. 10269, issued by BSEB, Patna, has been actually lost. Name of the Candidate Md. Rahmatullah: #8800262472.

0040514481-1

I,SHILPA Kapoor D/o Jitender Kapoor R/O-H.No.488 phase-3 DLF nathupura-gurgaon haryana. Have lost my original certificate class-10th year-2015 Rollno-2135192 CBSE-Delhi.

0040514539-9

## PUBLIC NOTICE

"BE IT KNOWN TO ALL THAT MY CLIENT MRS. NEHA KHANDEWAL W/O SH. VIKESH KHANDEWAL R/O 667/4 PREM GALI, KOTLA MUBARAKPUR NEW DELHI-110003 INTEND TO PURCHASE THE SHOP NO. 6 MEASURING 8'X25' PROPERTY MCD NO 965. SITUATED AT GURUDWARA ROAD, ARJUN NAGAR, KOTLA MUBARAKPUR NEW DELHI-110003 COMPRISING OF BASEMENT AND GROUND FLOOR FROM ITS OWNER NAMEDLY: VARSHA GUPTA W/O SH. SHANKAR LAL GUPTA. IT IS REPRESENTED TO MY CLIENT BY THE OWNER THAT THE ABOVE SAID SHOP IS FREE FROM ALL ENCUMBRANCES, CHARGES, MORTGAGE, LITIGATION LOAN, LIENS ETC. (REGISTERED OR UN-REGISTERED) ANY OTHER PERSON(S) HAVING ANY CLAIM AGAINST TO OR UPON THE SAID SHOP OR ANY PART THEREOF BY VIRTUE OF SALE INHERITANCE, AGREEMENT CONTRACT, MORTGAGE, LITIGATION LOAN, LIEN, CHARGE ETC OR OTHERWISE HOW SOEVER AND OF WHATSOEVER NATURE IS HEREBY REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE SAME IN WRITING ALONG WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO THE UNDERSIGNED WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THE GATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. FAILING WHICH MY CLIENT SHALL CONCLUDE THE SALE AND ANY CLAIM AND/OR OBJECTION IF ANY SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS WAIVED AND ABANDONED AND SHALL NOT BE BINDING UPON CLIENT

Sd/-  
Devender Kumar Sharma (Advocate)  
Enroll No D-329/1,  
Delhi High Court, Delhi  
A-75, South Extension Part-II  
New Delhi-110049

## PUBLIC NOTICE

"BE IT KNOWN TO ALL THAT MY CLIENT MRS. NEHA KHANDEWAL W/O SH. VIKESH KHANDEWAL R/O 667/4 PREM GALI, KOTLA MUBARAKPUR NEW DELHI-110003 INTEND TO PURCHASE THE SHOP NO. 6 MEASURING 8'X25' PROPERTY MCD NO. 965, SITUATED AT GURUDWARA ROAD, ARJUN NAGAR, KOTLA MUBARAKPUR, NEW DELHI-110003 COMPRISING OF BASEMENT AND GROUND FLOOR FROM ITS OWNER NAMEDLY: MRS. VANDANA PANSARI W/O SH. SUNIL KUMAR PANSARI. IT IS REPRESENTED TO MY CLIENT BY THE OWNER THAT THE ABOVE SAID SHOP IS FREE FROM ALL ENCUMBRANCES, CHARGES, MORTGAGE, LITIGATION LOAN, LIENS ETC. (REGISTERED OR UNREGISTERED) ANY OTHER PERSON(S) HAVING ANY CLAIM AGAINST INTO OR UPON THE SAID SHOP OR ANY PART THEREOF BY VIRTUE OF SALE INHERITANCE, AGREEMENT CONTRACT, MORTGAGE LITIGATION LOAN LIEN CHARGE ETC. OR OTHERWISE HOWSOEVER AND WHATSOEVER NATURE IS HEREBY REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE SAME IN WRITING ALONG WITH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE TO THE UNDERSIGNED WITHIN 15 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. FAILING WHICH MY CLIENT SHALL CONCLUDE THE SALE AND ANY CLAIM AND/OR OBJECTION IF ANY SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS WAIVED AND ABANDONED AND SHALL NOT BE BINDING UPON MY CLIENT

Sd/-  
Devender Kumar Sharma (Advocate)  
Enroll No. D-329/1, Delhi High Court, Delhi  
A-75, South Extension Part-II  
New Delhi-110049



SCHEDULE OF TENDERING:-		
1.	Date of online Publication	30.09.2019, 05.00 P.M.
2.	Downloading of e-tender documents	30.09.2019 at 05.00 P.M.
3.	Date of submission of e- tender	30.09.2019 at 05.30 P.M upto 14.10.2019 at 05.00 P.M
4.	Physical submission of EMD and cost of tender documents / other below mentioned documents	11.00 A.M. 15.10.2019
5.	Date of opening of bids:	15.10.2019 at 11.30 A.M.
	Cover-1 Eligibility Criteria	On 15.10.2019 at 11.30 A.M.
	Cover-2 Financial Bid	Shall be intimated separately
	Site Visit	Any working day till before opening of Bid.

(1) Tender documents and other instruction can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal <https://hptenders.gov.in>,

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-**

(1) The e-tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 (two) covers:-

- Cover-1** shall contain Scanned copies of "eligibility information"
- Cover-2** shall contain the "Financial bid" on the prescribed format.

(i) **Cover-1** shall contain Scanned copies of following "eligibility information" (Scanned copies to be uploaded).

- All payments regarding purchase of bid document and deposit of earnest money shall be through online mode (e-payment) or offline mode .
- The contractor/firm are advised to open bank accounts with core banking solution branches (with NEFT/RTGS facility) OR certificate of exemption of Earnest Money deposit. In case of exemption of worth Rs 3.00 Lakh the benefitted will be allowed up to 6.00 Lakh . In order to ensure the correctness of information supplied by the contractor/ firm about number of tenders in which he has participated and total value of their EMD involved, contractor will have to furnish undertaking stating that he has participated in such number of tenders and value of earnest money involved thereof.
- Certificate of contractor registration in appropriate class with HPIPH, State/CPWD, Irrigation Department, Public Health Department, PSUs & autonomous bodies of Centre/State Govt. with the condition that he is to get himself registered in appropriate class with HP IPH Department before award of work.
- PAN No., GST Registration.
- Scanned copy of undertaking that **"I have carefully studied all the terms and conditions stipulated in the contract document before quoting the rates in the BOQ chart and also visited the site of work before quoting the rates"**.
- Authorization letter regarding digital signature certificate (DSC) of the person authorized by the register tendered.
- Contractor EPF registration No.
- Copy of last income tax return filled.
- The contractor should have minimum nine months experience of O & M of sewerage network and STP.

(ii) **Cover-2** shall contain **Financial Bid** which will be opened at a later date to be notified separately.

(2) The contractor will submit the original documents in respect of Earnest Money, cost of tender form, copy of GST Registration Certificate, EPF No, Income tax return, Enlistment/Registration proof, undertaking and Experience certificate in the office of the Executive Engineer, I&PH Division Mandi (HP) on **15.10.2019 upto 11.00 A.M.**, failing which the tender of the defaulting Contractor/ firm will be summarily rejected.

(3) Earnest money of L1, L2 and L3 shall be retained for a period of 102 days.

(4) In case, opening day is a holiday, the tenders shall be opened on next working day at the same time.

(5) The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 120 days.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
I&PH Division, Mandi,**





# FIRST CCTV CAMERAS NOW 2 LAKH STREETLIGHTS



## SALIENT FEATURES OF MUKHYAMANTRI STREET LIGHT SCHEME

- DISCOMs will install all streetlights as part of this scheme
- With the permission of owners, streetlights will be installed on the wall of homes or shops, to provide lighting for dark spots
- The electricity for the streetlight will be taken from the concerned home or shop. The electricity bill will be paid to the DISCOM directly by the government. This will be done along the same lines as the CCTV Camera policy, and no financial burden shall be put on the home or shop owner
- These are modern streetlights with light sensors. These will automatically switch on when it becomes dark, and switch off in the morning

“ There are many dark spots in different part of Delhi, where women are unsafe. We will identify every such dark spot, and install more than 2 lakh streetlights, so that women feel safe in this city.”

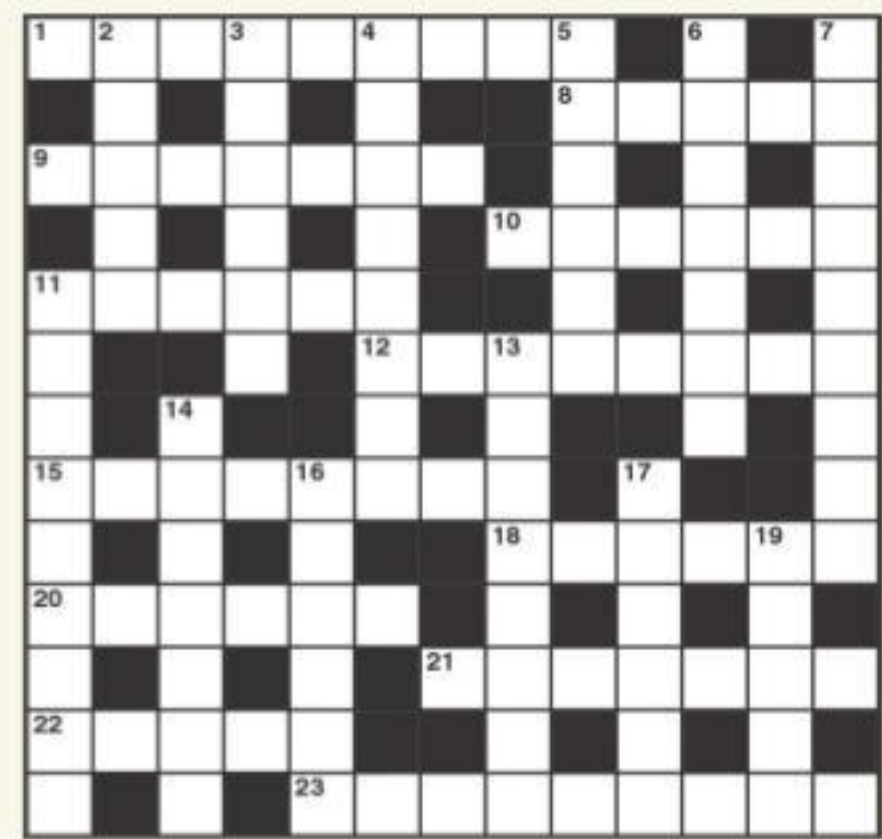
- Arvind Kejriwal  
Chief Minister, Delhi



To get a streetlight installed in your area, please contact your area MLA



CROSSWORD 3924



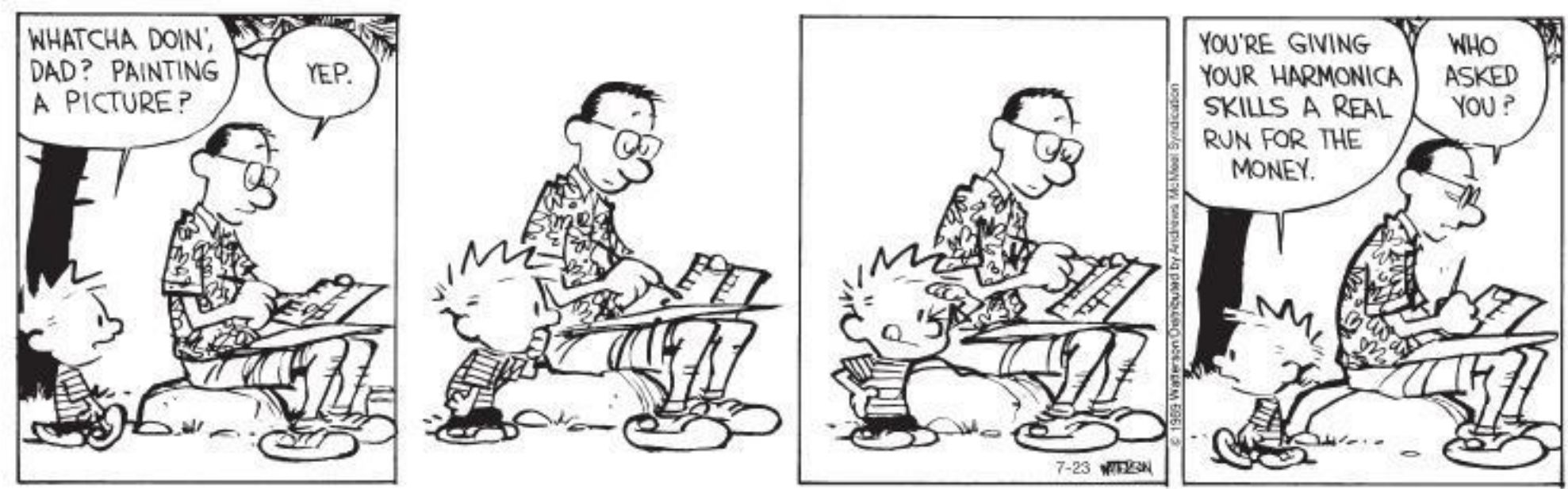
- ACROSS**
- 1 Very good acquisition for an aquarium? (5,4)
  - 8 The alternative in France is grave (5)
  - 9 End a romance and go to pieces (5,2)
  - 10 It often figures in art exhibitions (6)
  - 11 Rascally fellow who organises travel (6)
  - 12 The height of distinction (8)
  - 15 Many take on experiments as trials of ability (8)
  - 18 A sweet little thing to play with (6)
  - 20 Emerges from the foliage (6)
  - 21 Clued in a way to take one in (7)
  - 22 We sat around in a state of anxiety (5)
  - 23 He may investigate an insect and its changing form (9)
- DOWN**
- 2 Mean to a girl (5)
  - 3 Allow the Spanish poison to be brought up (6)
  - 4 Shakes with feverish disease and rests badly (8)
  - 5 Rush from Athens (6)
  - 6 Sarcastic extract from a newspaper (7)
  - 7 Respect some hesitation in one's excuses perhaps (9)
  - 11 Utterly incompetent (9)
  - 13 An occasion of exemplary significance (8)
  - 14 Badly angered and remaining furious (7)
  - 16 Puts up secret amendments (6)
  - 17 Shrinking flower? (6)
  - 19 Swimming pools of solid construction (5)

**Solutions Crossword 3923:** Across: 1 Aspirin, 4 Erato, 7 Tang, 8 Educated, 10 Rehearsals, 12 Innate, 13 Reveal, 15 Appreciate, 18 European, 19 Star, 20 Donor, 21 Aintree. Down: 1 Altar, 2 Pendant, 3 Nudism, 4 Excellence, 5 Ante, 6 Oddball, 9 Waste paper, 11 Decanter, 12 Infield, 14 Armada, 16 Eerie, 17 Oran.

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



JUMBLED WORDS

Given below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quip.  
When the flower blooms, the \_\_\_\_ come \_\_\_\_  
-Ramakrishna (4,,9)

REEEI  
HMIST  
EEVNUU  
BRAVED

**SUDOKU 3986**

**Difficulty Level 3s**  
**Instructions**  
To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

**Difficulty Level**  
1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius

**SOLUTION SUDOKU 3985**

NOTICE BOARD

CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY EVENTS, HONOURS



**AWARD-AAI**  
G Chandramouli, Regional ED (Western Region) & Aryama Sanyal, Airport Director, Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar Airport, Indore receiving the Best Airport Award (Rest of India Category) - National Tourism Award 2017-18.



**BICYCLE RALLY-NCC**  
MoS Defence Shripad Yesso Naik flagged in the Pan India Bicycle rally, as part of Mega Swachhta Pakhawada - 2019, conducted by NCC all across the country recently at India Gate New Delhi. The Minister congratulated the cadets for their splendid efforts.



**CAMPAIGN-SER**  
An awareness campaign against the use of plastic was carried out by SWRWWO at Hubballi Railway Station recently. This drive was part of appeal by PM on the occasion of 150 birth anniversary celebrations of the Mahatma Gandhi.



**HINDI MONTH-INDIAN BANK**  
Padmaja Chunduru, MD & CEO addressing the staff members during Valedictory function of Hindi Month 2019 organised at Indian Bank Corporate Office, Chennai on recently.



**AGM-PDIL**  
41st AGM of PDIL was held recently at Department of Fertilizers, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi under chairmanship of PS Sen Sharma (IAS), CMD, PDIL who in his Chairman's speech stated that PDIL achieved highest ever Profit after Tax of Rs 30.36 cr.



**MARATHON-INDIANOIL**  
The 4th edition of PSPB Intl. Half Marathon, 'Petro Run', was flagged off by India's champion sportstars & IOCians, H Das & P Gopichand in the presence of Dr MM Kutty, Chairman, PSPB, & Secy, MoP&NG & S Singh, Pres., PSPB, & Chairman, IOCL.



**MELA-CANARA BANK**  
As a part of Women Empowerment Programmes under the Bank's CSR Initiative, Women Empowerment Section, Canara Bank, Head Office organized 3 days Marketing Mela recently at Canara Bank, HO Auditorium.



**TRAIN SERVICE-SWR**  
To cater to the persistent demand of the public of Bengaluru, Ramanagaram, Mandya & Mysuru, SWR is pleased to extend Train No.16316 /16315 Kochuveli - KSR Bengaluru - Kochuveli Express up to Mysuru.



**CAMP-ESIC**  
On the occasion of birthday of the great revolutionary Bhagat Singh, the Sub-Regional Office of ESIC, Gurugram, organised a blood donation camp at its premises in sector 34 near Hero Honda Chowk recently.



**LAUNCH-AAI**  
Hardeep Singh Puri, MoS Civil Aviation, launched the SkyFit eBook in presence of PS Kharola, Secy, M/o Civil Aviation, A Aggarwal, Chairman, AAI& 1200 delegates from 193 countries during the ICAO's 40th Triennial Session & General Assembly.



**AGM-NEEPCO**  
43rd AGM of NEEPCO was held recently at New Delhi. Addressing the Shareholders, VK Singh, CMD of NEEPCO highlighted the achievements of the company during the year 2018-19. The Company earned Rs 451.58 crs as profit before tax.

**INDIANOIL** There are media reports of a possible LPG cooking gas crunch in the country in the festive season ahead. The Oil Marketing Companies would like to clarify that, contrary to such reports, they are fully equipped to meet the enhanced LPG demand through both indigenous sources as well as imports. While all LPG suppliers, including Saudi Aramco, are standing by their commitment to dispatch agreed quantities, indigenous supplies have also been stepped up and additional cargoes are being arranged to meet the enhanced demand in the festive period. The OMCS stand by their commitment of providing uninterrupted supply of LPG cooking gas to their valued customers.

DAY TODAY

BY PETER VIDAL

**ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr 20)**  
Please do take great care with your finances. There seems to be little doubt that rash actions now could result in increased costs later. Somehow your emotional security also seems to be involved, but perhaps you need to remember how ultimately you can only rely on yourself.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
Although it may be an indirect approach which matters, you may be more impressed by a direct appeal for help. The point I am trying to make is that you are quite touchy and will respond irrationally to the precise manner in which others say and do things.

**TAURUS (Apr 21 - May 21)**  
Extremely powerful planetary aspects signify that you are now sailing on uncharted waters. If you can possibly ask for help and advice, please do so. Pride is a quality you can usefully do without. It will only get you into worse difficulties. And, in any case, other people might actually have done better than you.

**SCORPIO (Oct 24 - Nov 23)**  
If you're sensible you'll consider eating humble pie, impressing others with your amazing contrition. You have much to be vain about, but overweening arrogance could cost you your happiness. If you're too complacent then you might just miss the most important developments.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
You can relax your efforts and allow others to do the arguing. No one has worked harder than you to keep the peace but now you deserve a little time to yourself. It is a fine moment to look after number one. After all, if you don't treat yourself well you won't treat anyone else properly, either.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov 24 - Dec 22)**  
It's not the easiest thing in the world to come to grips with your solar char at the moment. I am concerned that you may feel victimised or martyred. If so, please try and see what led you to this situation. Then you'll figure out how to get back to the way you were.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)**  
The combined influences of those mighty planets, Saturn and Jupiter, are about to work another major change in your private affairs. You're probably sick of hearing that your life's about to be transformed, but you've also probably become blasé, about upheavals that knock others for six.

**CAPRICORN (Dec 23 - Jan 20)**  
Current planetary aspects will force you to accept that you have never made the most of your potential in certain ways. For example, have you ever truly shown the world the person you really are? I suspect that you haven't — but it's never too late to start.

**LEO (July 24 - Aug 23)**  
Somebody has made all the right moves, but whether this is enough to placate you or make you change your ways is another matter. You are in a stubborn mood, but only you can decide whether you should stay as you are or bend a little. Perhaps you could do both.

**AQUARIUS (Jan 21 - Feb 19)**  
Isn't it better to stand on your own two feet? There is a definite need to look to your laurels now and not imagine that other people are going to bail you out. Close partners feel quite rightly that you must dig yourself out of whatever hole you have put yourself in.

**LIBRA (Sep 24 - Oct 23)**  
You may think you are being caring and considerate, but someone may be a little tired of what they see as your efforts to probe into their affairs. I'd say that discretion is now the order of the day. Total honesty may not be the best way to reveal secrets which can only cause consternation, so choose your words with care.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY**  
**INVITATION OF TENDERS THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM**  
Chief Admn. Officer/Const. Northern Railway, Kashmere Gate, Delhi for and on behalf of the President of India invites tender through e-procurement system to be opened at 14:30 hours on the dates as shown against each for the supply of the following items:-

Tender No.	Description of material in Brief	Qty.	Approx Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Delivery period	Date of opening
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Track	Manufacture and supply of -		190041477/-	380100.00	06 Months	24.10.19
06CAO	a) GRSP for Fan shaped Turn Out 1 in 8.5, 60 kg. to RDSO Drg. No. T-4965	157 sets			from the date of issue of Advance acceptance /counter offer	
C1920	b) GRSP for Derailing switches 60 kg to RDSO Drg No. T-6068	192 sets				
	c) GRSP for SEJ to RDSO Drg. No. T-4159	600 sets				
	d) GRSP for Guard Rails to RDSO Drg. No. T-5163	9433 Nos				
	e) Manufacture and supply of 10mm thick Composite Grooved Rubber Sole Plates (CGRSP) as per RDSO Drg. No. T-8528	Nos				

No. 18-S/19-20/Track/Tender Dated : 27.09.2019 3149/2019

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS**  
Phone/Fax No. 0194-2443031/2443032 (Sgr.) 0191-2459029/2459255 (Jmu)

**JAMMU AND KASHMIR, SRINAGAR**  
Website: www.jkpolice.gov.in E-mail: phqjkl@jkpolice.gov.in

**Tender Amendment**  
Following amendment is issued in NIT No. 67 of 2019 dated 31.08.2019 floated by Police Hqrs. J&K to procure BR Jackets:-  
i) QRs. and TDs (Tender Specifications) mentioned in the above tender are replaced by BIS Standard IS-17051 : 2018 circulated by BPR&D, New Delhi Vide Letter No. 52/04/2018 Mod(w) Pt-1 dated 14.06.2019.  
ii) Being a sensitive nature item, BIS Standard IS 17051 : 2018 BR Jackets circulated Vide BPR&D Letter No. 52/04/2018 Mod(w) Pt-1 dated 14.06.2019 is not being uploaded on J&K e-procurement portal www.jktenders.gov.in. However same will be handed over to the concerned Firm on written request on their official letter head signed by either head of the Division or equivalent officer authorized for doing so.  
iii) The BIS Standard-IS- 17051 : 2018 shall be collected from provisioning Branch, Police Hqrs., Pirbagh Srinagar, J&K or J&K CID Cell, Harish Chander Mathur Lane, New Delhi by or before 07.10.2019 upto 1800 hrs. After 07.10.2019 request for BIS Standard IS- 17051: 2018 will not be entertained.  
iv) Earnest Money Deposition = **Rs. 16 Lakh** instead of Rs. 02 Lakh.  
Detailed tender documents with terms and conditions are available on J&K State e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in.

No. Prov-11/Sec-61-A/2019-20-38661-70 Dated: 28.09.2019 DPK-NB-0450/M

**punjab national bank** पंजाब नैशनल बैंक  
... the name you can BANK upon!  
BRANCH OFFICE : GT ROAD, KARNAL  
POSSESSION NOTICE (SYMBOLIC)  
Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice on the dates mentioned against each account as stated below and hereinafter calling upon them to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of Notice/receipt of said notice.  
The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules, on the dates mentioned against each account.  
The borrower's/Guarantor's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.  
The borrowers/Guarantor's in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Punjab National Bank G. T. Road, Karnal for the amount and interest thereon, given below:

Name of the Account / Borrower & Guarantor	Description of property mortgaged	Date of demand notice	Date of possession	Amount O/s
M / s Mahesh Mercandise Pvt. Ltd. Through its Directors 1. Sh. Shish Pal Mittal S/o Sh. Raldu Ram	1. Land measuring 1 BIGHA 7 BISWA, OUT OF KHASRA NO. 72/24/2min(1-6), & 77/4/3min(0-1) situated in area of Village Mundka, Delhi State, Delhi -110041, owned by Mr. Shish Pal Mittal S/o Sh. Raldu Ram vide Sale Deed No. 203 Dated 06.01.2003 registered with Sub registrar, Sub Div-II, Delhi.	06.06.2019	25.09.2019	Rs. 22,51,05,273.37 (in words Rupees Twenty Two Crore Fifty One Lakhs Five thousand Two Hundred Seventy Three And Thirty Seven Paise Only.) as on 04.06.2019, Interest calculated up to 30.04.2019 with further interest
2. Sh. Amit Mittal S/o Sh. Shish Pal Mittal Registered Office Plot No. 72/24 Swaran Park Nundka New Delhi-110041	2. Land measuring 6 BISWA, OUT OF KHASRA NO. 72/25/1(0-6) situated in area of Village Mundka, Delhi State, Delhi -110041, owned by Mr. Shish Pal Mittal S/o Sh. Raldu Ram vide Sale Deed No. 204 Dated 06.01.2003 registered with Sub registrar, Sub Div- II, Delhi. So total Land Mortgaged to the Bank is 1 Bigha 7 Biswa & 6 Biswa (Total 1663.20 sq yards)	06.06.2019	25.09.2019	
Guarantors 1. Sh. Shish Pal Mittal S/o Sh. Raldu Ram.	at contracted rate and other expenses w.e.f 01.05.2019 until payment in full minus recoveries if any.			

Dated: 30.09.2019 Place: Karnal Authorized Officer, Punjab National Bank



WORLD'S A STAGE

Manganiyar Seduction, under the direction of Roysten Abel, will perform at Washington DC's Kennedy Center of Performing Arts on November 1 and 2. With 40 singers and instrumentalists from Rajasthan, they will use theatre to create a crescendo.



Remembering Kaalia



(Clockwise from above left) Viju Khote; in *Sholay*; in *Andaz Apna Apna*

EKTAA MALIK

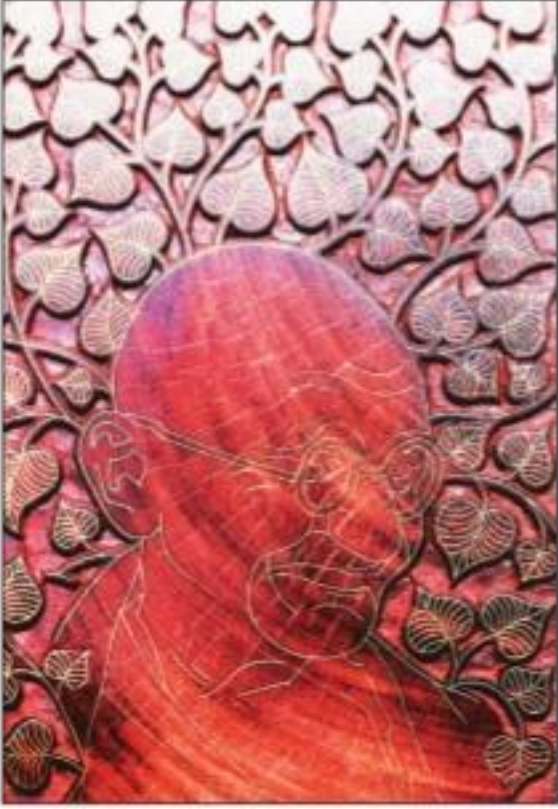
THOUGH HE appeared in more than 100 films and TV serials of equal volume, actor Viju Khote has been immortalised in the frames of cinematic history for his rendition of Kaalia, the faithful underling of dacoit Gabbar Singh, in *Sholay* (1975), a film that was a unique masala take on the Spaghetti Westerns. When after a foiled attempt to rake in grain from the poor villagers in Ramgarh, Kaalia and his two accomplices return empty-handed to Gabbar's den. The scene has Gabbar playing a form of Russian roulette with a revolver that only had three bullets, for the three culprits. "*Tera kya hoga Kaalia?*" asks Gabbar, when Kaalia's turn comes. Kaalia takes a gulp and utters, "*Sardar, maine aapka namak khaya hai*". Gabbar, just about to pull the trigger, responds, "*Toh ab goli kha*".

Viju had a 10-day schedule to shoot for the Ramesh Sippy classic, a film that made him a household name. Following the success of *Sholay*, Khote became a regular in Hindi films, he was a recognisable face in the supporting cast of many mega films, such as *Qurbani* (1980) and *Karz* (1980). Viju made a name for himself for his uncanny on liners, said often times with a sad, almost apathetic face. His co-star from *Karz*, Rishi Kapoor tweeted on his death. "RIP Viju Khote. Dear friend over the years. Though much elder, we used to bike together along with sister Shobha Khote

ji, when I was young. Passionate and well informed about American films. We will miss you."

Younger brother of actor Shubha Khote, Viju was born into a family, who were closely associated with films. His father was Marathi actor Nandu Khote, a prominent stage name, with many silent movies to his credit. Viju became a known face in the '80s. He would often appear as a wingman to the main villain. He also dabbled in Marathi theatre. Satish Alekar, Marathi actor and playwright recalls the late actor. "I met Viju Khote for the first time while shooting for *Ventilator* (2016). He was a very humble and cooperative person, who always came on time even when he was not in good health. I found that he was an ardent fan of Hollywood films and knew the smallest details of the films of John Wayne. He had acted in a lot of Marathi plays and had fond memories of them all. "Khote repeated his feat of playing the sidekick with *Andaz Apna Apna* (1994), where he uttered '*Galti se mistake*' another line that became a pop culture phenomena and is repeated even today. Actor Paresh Rawal, who played Mr Bajaj and Khote's boss in the film, also tweeted about the actor's death. "An endearing fellow and a generous co actor. AUM SHANTI VIJUJI."

Viju is also remembered for his stint on TV, with *Zabaan Sambhal Ke*. He passed away yesterday, at the age of 77, due to multiple organ failure in his Mumbai home.



(Clockwise from above left) Mohammed Arshad's wood carving, brass inlay; gond art by Venkat Raman Singh Shyam; Abdul Kalam's hand-tufted carpet; Kartik Manna's batik art in indigo

The Village Comes to the Capital

An exhibition and bazaar honours Gandhi's commitment to swadeshi crafts

SHINY VARGHESE

THE SALT Satyagraha, like an earthmover, had excavated and moved scores of villages to join Gandhi in his protest against a law that hit every home in British India. For nearly 24 days, they would march till they reached the coastal village of Dandi. There were bullock carts that carried khadi and charkas, since he would spin thread even when he was on the move. On Dandi's shores, his fistful of salt shook the British empire like nothing ever had. It was a symbol of India's defiance, unity and a statement of the "battle of right versus might".

Gond artist Venkat Raman Singh Shyam is presenting the charka as an symbol of unity in his work done for Dastkari Haat Samiti's exhibition, "An ode to the Mahatma Gandhi", that opens today at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi. "We've all grown up hearing stories of his *andolans*, and as an artist it was my search to understand what unity meant. We live selfish lives and the birds lined on a thread of the charka are a metaphor for how we need to work together. Just like birds who flock together, we need to join hands, so our thread is not broken," says Shyam. Using traditional motifs and colours of Gond art, he presents a message close to the heart of the leader.

At the exhibition, nearly 25 award-winning artisans are presenting their ode to Gandhi through a multitude of artforms, including handloom weaving, tie and dye, shibori embroidery, batik, durry weaving, Godhna, Gond, Patachitra, miniature, Madhubani, Warli, kavadi art and terracotta panels. From wood carving and inlay to bamboo work, glass work and Sanjhi art, Gandhi's life and message are being exhibited at the IGNCA. "Each of them have tried to break boundaries in showcasing their idea of Gandhi. We have worked with them

to help them understand that they can go beyond their usual framework to showcase their skills in this new project. Most craftspeople are storytellers and there are many stories waiting to be told," says Jaya Jaitly, President, Dastkari Haat Samiti.

The week-long show includes a crafts bazaar to honour Gandhi's commitment to the handmade. Chosen by the Samiti from remote parts of India, the artisans will introduce visitors to the craft forms at the bazaar, which is being held at the Mati Ghar Grounds, IGNCA. Some of these include bead work and Gudia Shilp from Jhabua, wooden comb and papier-mache birds from Ujjain, thread jewellery from Uttaranchal, silver



jewellery from Rajasthan, bandhani and wood work from Gujarat, kotpad weaving and paddy craft from Orissa, and paper crafts from Tamil Nadu. Jaitly says that the idea of swades that Gandhi nurtured through village industries guided the Samiti in choosing artisans and craftspeople for the show.

At the gallery, there's Andhra Pradesh-based master weaver Gajam Govardhana's exhibit in calligraphy with zari, while blow glass artist Mahesh Kumar from Uttar Pradesh is presenting the idea

of Gandhi through his figurines. Wire work artist Mohammed Rafiq, who usually makes keychains and miniature cycles, has made a three-feet figurine. Under the guidance of Jaitly, the Delhi-based artist has given his work a twist with pop colours, leaving Gandhi's spectacles in plain steel. "These are artists who work with their hand and minds. It's not any mechanised product they have to fit. We often see craft as an end product on a shelf. It need not be this way. Much of the work at the exhibition has grown organically and we hope through the crafts

bazaar, they will get commissions for their work from museums, private collectors and galleries," says Jaitly.

In West Bengal artist Karthik Manna's batik work, there's a mix of Indonesian and Indian techniques as he presents his exhibit on khadi. "Today, the face of Gandhi is only a shadow. His ideals of going back to nature is depicted in my indigo work. I have shown Gandhi making thread on the charka inside the sun, as a symbol of hope. The wheel has been turning all these years, be it at a potter's kiln or the *manjha* that's used during kite flying or in the round fishing net we have in Bengal. Everything is constantly turning, and as the wheel turns and the thread is made, we can hope for a better tomorrow," says Manna.

For Abdul Kalam, whose family for generations have been carpet weavers from Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh, taking the carpet from the floor to the wall as a work of art, has been a journey. His hand tufted carpet shows a silhouette of Gandhi's face. "I have developed Hollywood film posters into carpets. We can do much more if given a chance," says Kalam.

The exhibition and bazaar at IGNCA, New Delhi, is till October 8; 11 am to 8 pm

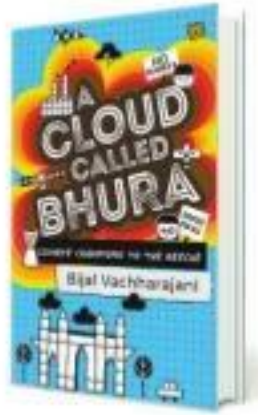
Cloudy With a Chance of Catastrophe

A children's book that talks about caste, and inspires you to be a climate champ

AMRITA DUTTA

IF YOU are one of those annoying members of the human species that author-editor Bijal Vachharajani calls "groan-ups", you probably do what almost all adults do in her new book, *A Cloud Called Bhura* (Talking Cub): put on your blinkers (and breathing masks) and learn to cope. One fine day, four teens in Mumbai — Amni, Tammy, Mithil and Andrew — wake up to find a fat brown cloud squatting over their city, gobbling up their sunlight and air, and turn it into a simmering, smoke-filled cauldron. What do people in charge do? Minister Motabhai calls the cloud, Bhura, an "anti-national" and a conspiracy against India's growth; news anchor Vaatodiyu Bahuche wonders if this Hollywood-style disaster is a sign of our "economic progress"; an ageing cinema superstar tries to vacuum away the dusty cloud in a televised dance performance; and numerous other parents plan to leave the city. The smog of denial is as toxic as Bhura.

But the children want answers and go about looking for them, despite the despair and disinformation all around. "I strongly believe children have the power to challenge things more than adults, because they observe. When you talk to them, they listen and act. I have worked with many children, some have asked me to sign tiger petitions, raised money for tiger conservation; written letters to chief ministers," says Vachharajani. She began writing the book in 2014, five years before a 16-year-old Swedish girl would grab the world's collar and force its attention on a dying planet. "That children would be a part of the solution was as clear then. There was no global climate strike at the time," she says.



(Above) Bijal Vachharajani and her book that unpacks climate science for children

Even then, Vachharajani knew that the brown cloud was not just a figment of her imagination. She was an environment and animal rights activist in her twenties, and in 2012 did a Master's in climate change from the University of Costa Rica. "In our

climate science classes, we saw satellite images of seasonal brown cloud formations, mostly across the south of the world, caused by pollutants. But there was so little political will to do anything about them," she says. The story seeded in her head also because of the number of days she would open the weather app and find her hometown Mumbai "under smoke".

The children's literature community in India is a vibrant, passionate and close-knit one — and Vachharajani is one of its many spunky champions. As a senior editor with Pratham Books, Vachharajani curates books that are fun, intelligent and rooted in Indian life. Her work, as an editor and writer, also reveals a welcome interest in equality. *A Cloud Called Bhura* not just stands out for its biting satire, the way it breaks down climate science for kids, but also for being a rare children's book that talks about Ambedkarite politics.

While we enter the book through the perspective of Amni, a smart nerd from a privileged family, it is Tammy, her Dalit friend, who helps Vachharajani engage with questions of caste and inequality. "Tammy came from my late partner Abhiyan. He and I had several conversations about the Ambedkarite movement. He was very outspoken about discrimination, about the marginalisation he had faced. They made me realise that his experiences as a child were very different from mine. It left him feeling more alienated than anything else," she says. While Amni is "someone many of us know," Vachharajani knew that was not the only perspective.

"Climate change is going to impact the more vulnerable sometimes. And that frightens me sometimes. So, I wrote a whole draft only from Tammy's point of view. And then I merged it with an earlier one," she says.

While the book is her way of getting children talking about the climate crisis, Vachharajani is not an optimist about the planet's survival. "Sometimes, I think we are in a car crash," she says. "Change has to happen at many levels, but most importantly at the policy level. Finally, the children have forced out attention, what do we do with it?" Do the kids end up winning the battle? Let's just say, Bhura has a fight on its hands.



(Clockwise from above) Untitled; Vernacular Chants; Gandhi Street

Everyone's Mahatma

An artist on finding the father of the nation moulded to suit many faces and philosophies

VIVEK VILASINI

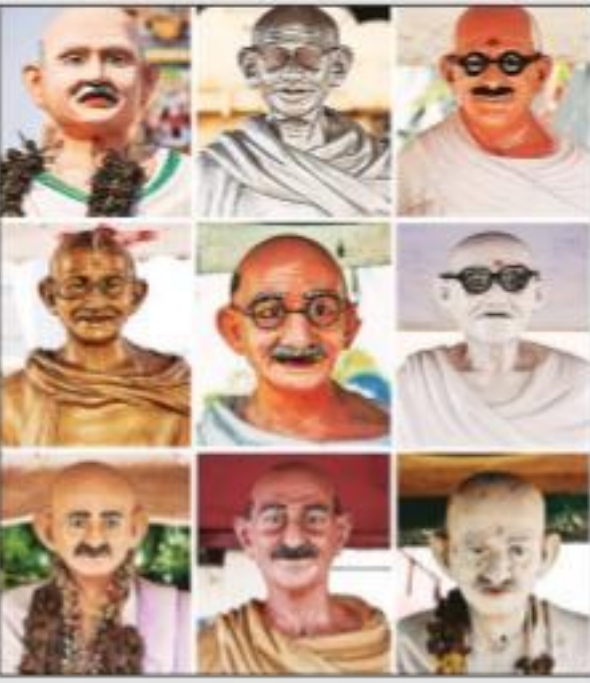
IN 2003, I was making granite features for a UK-based designer, and as part of my work, I visited a quarry near the small town of Attur in Tamil Nadu. It was quite late at night and I needed to find a hotel to spend the night in. I was directed to head towards the Gandhi statue in Attur, behind which, I was told, is the hotel. I reached the statue, which looked like that of a white man, holding a book and walking. It actually looked like Groucho Marx. Later, I saw a statue of Ambedkar that looked like Rajiv Gandhi. It got me thinking about how many statues there are of Gandhi and Ambedkar, which look like other people. I recalled Gandhi statues from my hometown Kochi, which looked nothing like Gandhi, and others that I had seen in other

parts of the country.

Then there was this one statue that I saw in Bangalore, which seemed to be stuck to the ground. The statue had actually existed before the road, so when the road was built, they ended up covering his feet. So this statue of a man, who was known for walking everywhere, depicted him as being stuck in one place.

Another statue I saw was on the roof of a building, behind the house that I lived in while in Bangalore. This house belongs to a guy who makes and sell statues. On the roof, he had placed Gandhi's statue, along with one of Tirupati Balaji and a white man sitting naked on a commode. It was strange and funny.

There are a couple of questions that I wished to explore when I began photographing Gandhi's statues. One is how much of the images of Gandhi in the pub-



lic space do we accept as Gandhi? The other is how much of Gandhi's philosophy is appropriated and ends up not resembling what he had said. You see something similar in his images in the public space as well. I've seen a Gandhi statue that looked like LK Advani, whose politics is very different. Everyone has their own use for Gandhi, and I thought that these various images of Gandhi, which don't look like him, speak of that.

I also did a series of works in which I've projected onto my face the faces of people who have influenced me and my outlook on life. One such important influence is Gandhi. The projection is done in such a way that one eye of mine overlaps with one of Gandhi's eyes, so it's like I'm seeing the world through his perspective.

AS TOLD TO POOJA PILLAI



# An opening... or a dead end

Given the team management’s trigger-happy ways, Rohit, treading the best phase of his career, needs to make an instant impact

**SRIRAM VEERA**  
VISAKHAPATNAM, SEPTEMBER 30

WHAT’S WITH Rohit Sharma that despite numerous examples of forced openers failing that we cling to the rare exceptions like Virender Sehwag to justify our hope that he would come good in Tests? Just recently, England tried the Sehwag template to hoist Jason Roy but he was dismantled and dishevelled by the end of the series that he had to be dropped for the final game.

Still, somehow, there is hope about Sharma. We know why of course – talented stars like him get that extra rope. Not necessarily, a consistent run over a few series but every now and then, an optimistic shove into a Test series to see if he can do some magic. He, of course, didn’t but what makes this time different?

Probably because he is the best prepared he has ever been for a spot in Tests. Ideally, it should have been in the middle order but since that spot isn’t opening up, he has been given that old Indian back-door entry as an opener. Still there is a reason to hope. For a man who used to get squared-up to straight deliveries outside off stump, he has come a long way in terms of his balance at the wicket. It’s not been an overnight change either; slowly he has eased out one worry after another.

For a while, even when he was scoring big in ODIs, he used to get in a great deal of trouble against the ball that would duck back into him, especially if it was from a left-hander. The left leg would be pressed so far ahead and more importantly across the line, that he would get into an awful tangle. With quality seamers, there wasn’t much time to wriggle out of trouble – and he was an lbw candidate.

Sometime during the last IPL, one sensed he had worked out a plan. He stopped trying to work the ball to the leg, even if it meant tapping a ball on the middle and leg towards mid-on. The entire focus it seemed was on maintaining a balance and a side-on stance, feet not too wide at the crease.

The forward press became a matter of choice rather an involuntary movement. He began to look in better control out there. But it also meant a greater strain on his mental fortitude – he now had to ensure he doesn’t upset his balance by trying to flick. It created a few problems even in the dreamy World Cup in the early games where his aerial flick shots just about fell wide of lunging catchers at square-leg. He immediately shut the leg-side shop. Not easy for a free-flowing batsman like him but he did that.

### Tightened off-side game

The game outside off stump also has improved but it’s still an area that could make or break his Test career. It’s a better version than in the past of course when he would fish and hang his bat away from the body. A loose-limbed fatal prod and would get him squared-up. You would wait for the replays to see if it was some vicious leg-cutter but it would turn out to be a ball that just about dinked away if anything.

Just the muscular twitch was understandable to an extent – OMahela Jayawardene would do offer a limp prod a lot in his young days but the squaring up was worrisome. All that has stopped in recent times. Simply put, he looks much better of control of his mind and as a result over his body in the middle.

But as Vernon Philander showed in the warm-up game the other day, it’s an area that will test him. The only good thing is he now is like any other opener who has a problem with that line.



Rohit Sharma has repeatedly said that he’s in his best mental space. But it would be a different game altogether facing new-ball-armed Rabada and Philander. *PTI*

All openers would have; it’s not such a egregious weakness as it used to be for him. It’s the ball that took him out in world cup semi-final when New Zealand’s Matt Henry took him out with a lovely curler.

Like any other opener, he needs some luck and while Indian team management might think they have provided him with cover by giving him a home series. But his luck, he would run into the most nagging new-ball bowler in world cricket today, Philander, who thrives on any hint of iffiness of technique and mind.

### Expected: Pitch to play low

The Vizag pitch is expected to play low but there has been some rain in the air and more has been forecasted in the days to come. If there is even an iota of moisture in the air or the pitch, Philander would exploit it in his new-ball spell. And that’s the spell Sharma will be at his most tentative.

The general expectation about him is that if he gets through the first 10 overs, he will be good for the long haul in Indian conditions but he has to get through that period. There is another factor that he has to contend with: the impatience in this Indian think tank. Ask Ajinkya Rahane, R Ashwin, or even Cheteshwar Pujara.

The Australia series saved Pujara, and Rahane has climbed out of the grave with performances in the West Indies recently. Now, it’s the turn of Rishabh Pant. The word is that Wriddhiman Saha is almost certain to replace him in the playing eleven for the first Test at Vizag.

The current think tank doesn’t believe in

**The forward press became a matter of choice rather an involuntary movement. He began to look in better control out there. But it also meant a greater strain on his mental fortitude— he now has to ensure he doesn’t upset his balance by trying to flick.**

long unimpeded runs. Make or break. Perform or perish. Insecurity as a performance-enhancing drug. Ashwin one senses is at that stage now. The fastest bowler to 250 wickets now finds himself at a vulnerable stage in his career – a state of affairs he couldn’t have imagined 20 months back.

Sharma now finds himself with a great opportunity in Tests but it comes with all these accompanying dark clouds. As he repeatedly kept saying in the last World Cup, he is at his best when he is at the best mental space.

It’s perhaps not a coincidence that his performance dipped after the world cup and particularly after that alleged tiff with Kohli. He now gets a crack at the Test spot he has desired for a while now and it would be fascinating to see what he makes of it. His game is at its best it has ever been, whether it’s enough to tackle the likes of Philander and Kagiso Rabada remains to be seen.

## Behind Rahane's revival: Not fretting over technique

*Visakhapatnam:* There is a definite spring in Ajinkya Rahane’s steps after he ended a 17-Test run of not scoring a hundred, a number which has proved to be lucky for him. Rahane, India’s Test vice-captain, was under pressure to perform in the West Indies and he delivered with an 81 and 102 in the first Test in Antigua.

“You get to learn from every match and every series and I had to wait for two years, 17 Tests, for my Test debut and for this century (in West Indies) I had to wait for 17 Tests. I think there was some co-ordination,” said Rahane. “When I was playing for Hampshire, I was thinking, when I made my debut, how my mindset was before that. In these 17 Tests, I was not getting a hundred, I was going behind getting a hundred and it was not coming. “So, in the West Indies, my thought process was that I will not think of getting a hundred even once, whatever has to be happen will happen. If a hundred has to come, it will come,” said Rahane who could not hide the excitement of becoming a father soon.

Rahane insisted that he did not work too much on his technique to get back amongst the runs. “From outside it may look easy, for me it was about believing in my ability. Not thinking about the technical stuff, it was all about how I make the mental adjustment



Rahane returned to form with 271 runs in four innings in the West Indies.

like handling difficult situations,” said the 31-year-old.

South Africa may not have the services of star players like AB de Villiers and Dale Steyn anymore but Rahane said India cannot afford to take the Proteas lightly. India hammered them 0-3 at home four years ago. “There are five Tests at home versus South Africa (three Tests) and Bangladesh (two Tests). Because of the Test Championship, you cannot take any team lightly. Even before the championship, we were not taking any team lightly.” *PTI*

## Haryana government asks for advisory panel if HCA doesn’t follow SC directions

**EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE**  
KOLKATA, SEPTEMBER 30

THE HARYANA government on Monday wrote to the BCCI, asking the cricket board to consider appointing an advisory committee at the Haryana Cricket Association (HCA) if the state body doesn’t fall in line with the Supreme Court directions and the Lodha Committee recommendations.

The HCA, however, denied the allegation of not conforming to the reforms, mentioning that the letter could be a result of “incorrect information” sent to the government, as it has already amended its constitution in accordance with the Lodha recommendations.

The Committee of Administrators (CoA) that helms the BCCI at the moment is tight-lipped on the issue, although in a application filed before the Supreme Court on September 23, it stated that the HCA hadn’t yet adhered to the new BCCI constitution.

The Haryana government, in its letter, expressed apprehension that if the HCA doesn’t comply with the apex court’s directives and the Lodha reforms, the BCCI might de-recognise the state body, which could prevent cricketers from the state to play in the Ranji Trophy. “As a precautionary measure, the Haryana

## DDCA secy cries foul over MLA as treasurer

**EXPRESSNEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

DELHI AND District Cricket Association (DDCA) secretary Vinod Tihara has questioned the eligibility of OP Sharma, a BJP member of the legislative assembly, to continue as treasurer of the state unit arguing that it is not in accordance with the Supreme Court–approved amended constitution of the Indian cricket board. The constitution of the Board of Control for Cricket in India bars ministers, government servants or those holding public office from taking up posts in cricket administration.

In a letter to BCCI electoral officer N Gopalaswami, Tihara wrote: “The treasurer of DDCA namely Mr OP Sharma is a sitting member of the Legislative assembly of Delhi and is bound to be disqualified but even after the judgement of the Supreme Court, no action has been taken by the DDCA or the Committee of Administrators...”

The DDCA elections were held in June last year and results declared in the first week of July. A month later, in August 2018, the Supreme Court – after a series of hearings – asked the BCCI to amend its constitution as per the Lodha Committee recommendations.

When asked why Sharma continued to remain DDCA treasurer, the state unit’s counsel Saurabh Chadda said in a statement: “The amended Articles of Association (AoA) which came into force in Sept, 2018 made a person, who is a Minister or a Government Servant or holds a public office, ineligible for being a member of the Apex Council (which includes office bearers). However, when Mr. OP Sharma got elected as Treasurer, DDCA on 02.07.2018, this particular eligibility criterion of “holding a public office” was not there in the AoA. Thus, his election was both legal and valid and a subsequent eligibility condition cannot be applied to it with retrospective effect.”

In the same letter to the BCCI electoral officer, Tihara also questions how DDCA president Rajat Sharma appointed himself as the representative of the state unit without the approval of the general body.

The letter further claims that Sharma had appointed himself as the representative of the DDCA to BCCI. “Rajat Sharma through the executive committee has taken the decision and has appointed himself as the representative of DDCA to BCCI. It is most humbly submitted that the Articles of Association of DDCA mandate that the general body of DDCA shall appoint its representative to BCCI,” Tihara’s letter reads. However, Chadda argued that under the present AoA of DDCA, it is the Apex Council and not the General Body which decides who will represent DDCA at BCCI meetings.

“We have not received any communication so far from the electoral officer, BCCI regarding any issues raised by Mr Tihara with him. The Articles of Association of the DDCA were amended as per the procedure laid down by SC. The amended AoA have been accepted by the CoA and the BCCI,” the statement added.

**The DDCA elections were held in June last year and results declared in the first week of July. A month later, in August 2018, the Supreme Court – after a series of hearings – asked the BCCI to amend its constitution as per the Lodha Committee recommendations.**

## Azam and Shinwari quell Lanka’s resilience

**AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE**  
KARACHI, SEPTEMBER 30

IN THE end, it was a stroll for Pakistan, as they beat Sri Lanka by 67 runs at the National Stadium in Karachi. But they managed the victory only enduring a scare, as Shehan Jayasuriya and Dasun Shanaka, stitched together the highest sixth-wicket partnership for the Lankans in this format. But as soon as the 177-run alliance ended, after joining hands with the tourists reeling at 5/28, Pakistan were back in the game and cruised home.

Again, it was left-arm pacer Usman Shinwari who picked the wicket of Jayasuriya that snuffed out Sri Lanka’s last lingering hopes of an unlikely heist. He then ejected the dangerous Isuru Udana to complete a memorable five-wicket on a memorable day for Pakistan.

He had earlier sliced through the top order, gobbling up Sadeera Samarawickrama, Avishka Fernando and Lahiru Thirimanne in a hostile first spell that all but ended Sri Lanka’s hopes. Shinwari, who was adjudged the man of the match, explained his plan: “I’ve come in after 5-6 months. It was a comeback of a sorts. I put in my everything. It was a slow wicket, but I stuck to my plan. They hit me all over the park on my debut, I’m just avenging myself,” he said.

Sri Lanka skipper Thirimanne blamed the defeat on the way they batted in the first 10 overs. “It was a great effort by Shehan and Dasun. They showed us how to bat in these



Babar Azam scored his 11th ODI hundred, helping Pakistan to 305/7. *AP*

conditions. Disappointed how we handled the first ten overs, it was not good enough. They bowled pretty well, but overall we could have kept them to below 300. Our bowlers did well in small phases, but later stages they’ve given some extra runs.”

Earlier, it was the stylish Babar Azam

thrashed a swashbuckling hundred to steer Pakistan to 305-7 in the second day-night international against Sri Lanka on Monday as Karachi staged its first ODI in 10 years. The 24-year-old proved he is currently one of the best batsmen in limited overs cricket with a 105-ball-115 to lift Pakistan to a big total after the

home team won the toss and batted. Azam, when on 54, became the fifth batsman to complete 1,000 ODI runs in 2019 – behind India’s duo Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, and Australian couple Aaron Finch and Usman Khawaja.

He added an innings building 111 for the third wicket with Haris Sohail (40), as Sri Lankan bowlers toiled to break the stand. It was only through an unfortunate run out that Sohail fell, leaving Azam to anchor the innings. He square cut pacer Lahiru Kumara for a boundary to complete his 11th ODI hundred off 97 balls. Azam was finally out at deep mid-on off Kumara, cracking eight boundaries and four sixes. Iftikhar Ahmed batted aggressively for his 20-ball 32 not out—two sixes and as many boundaries—as Pakistan made 89 in the last 10 overs.

Openers Fakhar Zaman (54) and Imam-ul-Haq gave Pakistan a solid start of 73 before Sri Lanka’s best bowler, leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga, trapped Imam for 31. Hasaranga also had Fakhar for 65-ball 54 studded with six boundaries and a six. Hasaranga finished with 2-63.

Skipper Sarfaraz Ahmed was also run out for eight while Imad Wasim made 12. While the first match was rained off in Karachi on Friday, the third and final game will be held in the city on Wednesday.

**BRIEF SCORES:** Pakistan 305 for 7 (Babar 115, Fakhar 54, Hasaranga 2-63) beat Sri Lanka 238 in 46.5 overs (Shehan Jayasuriya 96, Dasun Shanaka 68, Usman Shinwari 5/51).





BRIEFLY

Gebrselassie says athletes could have died

DISTANCE-RUNNING great Haile Gebrselassie says it was a mistake to hold the track and field world championships in Qatar and that marathon runners could have died from the heat. The women's marathon on Saturday started at midnight to dodge the worst of the heat in Qatar but was still held in humidity that made it feel like 40 degree celsius. Twenty-eight of the 68 women dropped out, 30 runners were given medical inspections and one was briefly hospitalised. "It was a mistake to conduct the championship in such hot weather in Doha, especially the marathon race. As someone who has been in the sport for many years, I've found it unacceptable," former marathon world-record holder Gebrselassie said. "God forbid, but people could have died running in such weather conditions," Gebrselassie said.

Withdrawals make Asher-Smith favourite

BRITAIN'S DINA Asher-Smith powered her way into the 200 metres semifinals on Monday, with a gold medal suddenly up for grabs following a rash of high-profile withdrawals. After taking silver in the 100m on Sunday, Asher-Smith will be licking her lips at the prospect of 200m gold after clocking the top time of 22.32 seconds in the opening heats with many of the medal favourites unable to make it to the starting blocks. Newly-crowned 100m champion Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who beat Asher-Smith to the gold, decided not attempt the double due to the effort put in on Sunday while Ivory Coast's bronze medallist Marie-Josée Ta Lou was also a scratch having picked up an injury in the final. Dafne Schippers, 200m champion at the last two worlds, pulled out of the 100m final after straining an adductor muscle and decided she was not fit enough to defend her crown. The event had already lost one of the gold-medal favourites Shaunae Miller-Uibo of the Bahamas, who owns the best time of 21.74 this season but opted out of the 200m in Doha.

Blessing disqualified twice from 200m

BLESSING OKAGBARE was disqualified from the 200 metres for a second time. Because of a mix-up by her nation's track federation, the Nigerian sprinter was initially disqualified after she didn't show up for the 100-metre races that she never intended to run. Only after an appeal and a long wait did Blessing find out she was back in. But when she got to the race, she was disqualified for stepping outside of her lane. Nigeria's track federation had entered both her and Divine Odudu in the 100-metre races, even though neither intended to compete at that distance. When they didn't show up, IAAF rules called for them to be disqualified from the rest of the meet, including their main events, the 200, and the 4x100 relays.

Russia's anti-doping chief cries 'betrayal'

Russian anti-doping agency's CEO said he feels "betrayed" after evidence emerged that crucial doping data was tampered with. Russian authorities handed over the data to the World Anti-Doping Agency in January after it had been kept under seal by Russian law enforcement. The data was widely believed to hold the key to past doping offences in Russian sports, but WADA is now investigating apparent tampering and could impose new sanctions on Russia. "We have been betrayed, we have had the right to be on the side of truth taken away from us," Yuri Gansus, CEO of the Russian agency, wrote in an open letter dated Monday. AGENCIES

Mothers' day

Fraser-Pryce and Felix, both competing in first Worlds since taking pregnancy break, clinch record gold medals

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
DOHA, SEPTEMBER 30

JAMAICAN SPRINT queen Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce surged to an unprecedented fourth 100m crown and US legend Allyson Felix broke Usain Bolt's gold medal record tally as the returning new mothers lit up the World Championships here. Fraser-Pryce and Felix, both racing in their first major championships since taking time off from the sport to have children, lit up a pulsating day three of competition even if the action was played out inside a near-empty Khalifa Stadium on Sunday.

The 32-year-old Fraser-Pryce, who skipped the 2017 championships to give birth to her first child, delivered a barnstorming run to take the 100m in 10.71sec. Britain's Dina Asher-Smith took silver with a time of 10.83sec while Ivory Coast's Marie-Josée Ta Lou claimed bronze in 10.90sec. "To be standing here as world champion again after having my baby, I am elated," said Fraser-Pryce.

"The females keep showing up. We love to put on a performance and for me I am just really happy to come away with the win." Fraser-Pryce was in control from the gun, rocketing out of the blocks and taking the lead in the opening 20 metres. From that point there was only going to be one winner, and the veteran Jamaican swept over the line majestically to add to the world titles won in 2009, 2013 and 2015 before setting off on a victory lap carrying her two-year-old son Zyion. The two-time Olympic champion's dominant display was the highlight of a day three which also saw US track queen Felix win a record 12th World Championship gold medal.

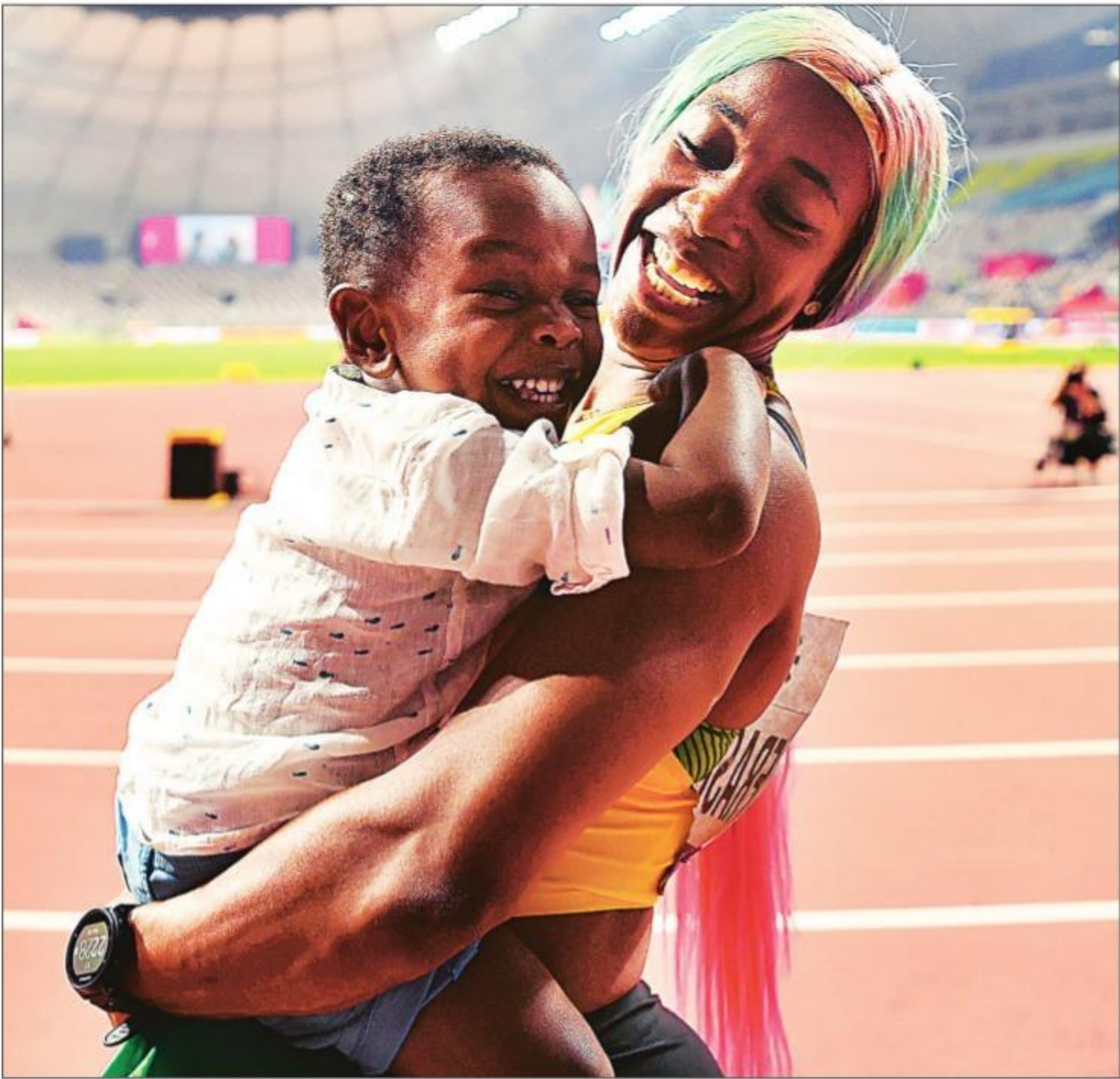
Felix only returned to the sport in July after a 13-month layoff which saw her give birth to her daughter Camryn by emergency C-section last November. The 33-year-old, who failed to qualify for the individual 400m event in Doha, took gold in the 4x400m mixed relay as the United States motored to victory in a world record time of 3min 09.34sec. Felix's 12th gold medal broke Jamaican legend Bolt's record tally of 11 World Championship gold medals. Overall, Felix now has an incredible 26 medals, a dazzling haul that also includes six Olympic golds.

Felix, competing in her ninth straight world championships, has accumulated more World Championship and Olympic honours than any other track and field athlete in history. "So special, to have my daughter here watching means the world to me," Felix said afterwards.

"It's been a crazy year for me." Felix later paid tribute to the support of Fraser-Pryce as she worked her way back to fitness this season. "We've talked a lot this year and been there for each other," Felix said. "She's been an amazing support. I'm just thrilled to see her back on top and better than ever, and I hope that is an inspiration to others. I know that she's an inspiration to me." There was another victory for a returning mother in the final event of the day, the women's 20km race walk, where China's 2016 Olympic champion Liu Hong won gold. Liu, 32, who took a maternity break from 2017-2018, shrugged off steamy heat and humidity to lead a Chinese sweep of the medals in 1hr 32min 53sec and secure her third world title. Qieyang Shenjie took silver in 1:33:10 while compatriot Yang Liuqing won bronze in 1:33:17.

Elsewhere Sunday, triple jump king Christian Taylor completed a superb hat-trick of World Championship titles after surviving near elimination in a nerve-jangling final. The two-time Olympic champion and now four-time world champion clinched gold with a leap of 17.92m.

That was good enough to fend off the challenge of compatriot Will Claye, who took silver with a best jump of 17.74m. Burkina Faso's Hugues Fabrice Zango claimed bronze with a jump of 17.66m. Taylor, the world champion in 2011, 2015 and 2017, had flirted with elimination at the start of the final after fouling his first two jumps. In the women's pole vault, Anzhelika Sidorova — competing under the Authorised Neutral Athlete banner due to the IAAF ban on Russia over the doping scandal — won with a vault of 4.95 metres. America's Sandi Morris took silver with 4.90m while Greece's Olympic champion Katerina Stefanidi took bronze.



MAMMA'S BOY

Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce celebrated winning the 100m by taking her son Zyion on a lap of honour. AP

Annu rewrites own history, enters javelin final

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE  
SEPTEMBER 30

IN A span of seven months, Annu Rani has rewritten her own javelin throw national record twice. Armed with a much-improved technique, she threw the spear to a distance of 62.34m at the Federation Cup in March, and on Monday reset the record again with an attempt of 62.43m to become the first woman from the country to qualify for the javelin final in the World Championships.

Annu's best throw, which came in her second attempt, put her in fifth spot overall in the qualification round. The 27-year-old has come back strongly this season after her Asian Games disappointment where she failed to even cross the 55m mark.

Annu was left high and dry after the Jakarta event. She was omitted from the throws camp in South Africa under national coach Uwe Hohn.

Her long-time coach Kashinath too discontinued his services at NIS Patiala around the same time. That was when veteran javelin coach Baljeet came to her rescue and thus began her revival. Baljeet suggested some significant tweaks to Annu's technique and employed unorthodox training methods using golf balls and lighter javelins to improve his ward's throws.

"There are small things which need to be kept in mind. The knees, shoulder, hip and the throwing arm needs to be aligned in a perfect manner. I had the issue of lowering my throwing arm and then almost freezing it before release. This resulted in me unable to use all my power. Actually, power or strength is not an issue for me but it is my



Annu Rani recorded a distance of 62.43m in her second throw, bettering her earlier national record of 62.34m. Reuters

technique," Annu had said in March after rewriting her national mark from 61.86 to 62.34m. Annu joined the national campers in Poland after the Federation Cup and has been training under Hohn since.

Back home in Meerut, Annu's family has been following the action on television closely. Elder brother Upendra, who inspired Annu to take up sports, is ecstatic about the qualification for the final but says the family would only celebrate if she returns with a medal.

"We know that it is really tough to bag a medal at the Championships but it's our job to hope and pray. We are really proud of her achievement. She called me a while back and said she was feeling really good about the throw and is confident of putting up a better show in the final," Upendra, a farmer, told The Indian Express.

Getting on the podium will be an uphill task for the Indian going by the strength of the field. Asian Champion Huihui Lyu of

ACTION ON DAY 5

19:00	M	Hammer Throw Qualification Group A
19:05	M	400 m Heats
19:20	M	High Jump Qualification
20:00	W	400m Hurdles Heats
20:30	M	Hammer Qualification Group B
22:35	M	Pole Vault Final
23:20	W	400 Metres Semi-Final
00:05 (2 OCT)	W	200 Metres Semi-Final

INDIA WATCH

20:45 3000 m SC Heats  
AVINASH SABLE  
23:50 Javelin Throw Final  
ANNU RANI



Avinash Sable will run in Heat 3.

China managed a mammoth throw of 67.27m to top the qualifiers while Christin Hussong of Germany registered 65.29m.

At the previous edition of the World Championships, the top six spots in the final went for throws above 64 metres. But for now, the Indian javelin camp is pleased with Annu's historic achievement.

"She is very hardworking and I am really happy to see her do well. It's a huge moment for us and India. We are rooting for her to do well in the final," said Shival Singh, a national camp teammate, from Doha.

Other Indians fizzle out

PTI adds: The other two Indians who competed on Monday, Archana Susheendran and Anjali Devi, failed to go past the first round in the women's 200m and 400m respectively.

Archana, 25, who got a last-minute invite from world governing body IAAF to take part in the showpiece event, finished last in heat number 2 and 40th overall out of the 43 participants who completed their races with a timing of 23.65 seconds.

She has a personal best of 23.18. The 21-year-old Anjali, meanwhile, finished sixth in heat number 6 and 36th overall out of 46 athletes, with a time of 52.33 seconds. Anjali, who underwent a confirmatory trial before being cleared for this championships, has a personal best of 51.53, which she achieved while winning gold at the Inter-State championships in August in Lucknow.

The top three finishers in each of the six heats and the next six fastest qualified for the semifinals. The slowest time that made the cut for the semifinals was 52.23.

Low Attendance



Poor turnout presents a major headache to Qatar and Sebastian Coe. AP

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE  
DOHA, SEPTEMBER 30

QATAR CONFIDENTLY promised there would be "no empty seats" when it first bid for the World Athletics Championships — three days into the 2019 championships that promise rings as hollow as the Doha stadium.

One of the greatest athletes of all time, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, won a record fourth 100 metres title in front of a sparse crowd on Sunday with officials and friends and family of the athletes making up a large proportion of the spectators. Although Doha hosts a Diamond League meeting, athletics has no real roots in Qatar and the decision to take the World Championships to the Gulf raised eyebrows.

Fans even left before local medal hope Abderrahman Samba had run his heat on Friday in the men's 400 metres hurdles.

It is not the image the International Association of Athletics Federations and its newly re-elected president Sebastian Coe — who normally has a sure political touch —

would have wished for in the first championships since the sport's huge drawcard Usain Bolt retired after an almost soldout championships in London in 2017.

Fraser-Pryce shrugged off Sunday's desert of fans but it is not the first time the Jamaican has won world titles in a less than full stadium — the crowd was decidedly thin when she and Bolt triumphed in Moscow in 2013.

"I'm used to having the stands rammed," commented a bemused Bolt at the time. That was despite the now disgraced IAAF president Lamine Diack and vice-president Sergey Bubka doing a deal with a Ukrainian oligarch to fly in 2,000 of his employees to populate the stadium.

Diack, who is under investigation in France with the successful bid by Qatar part of the dossier, may take the blame for the Doha debacle but Coe was on the evaluation commission for that bid race.

According to the official figures, over 11,000 spectators filed into the Khalifa International Stadium both on the opening night and then for one of the marquee events, the men's 100 metres final, on Saturday.

The stadium has a maximum 40,000 capacity but had already had its size reduced to around 20,000 by blocking out an upper tier. The organisers issued a statement on Monday saying extra efforts would be made to ensure larger crowds during the remaining week of the championships.

"After two solid days of attendance, (70 percent on Day 1 and 67 percent on Day 2), numbers were down on our expectations on Day 3, under 50 percent, which coincided with the start of the working week in Qatar," it read. "We are confident that our renewed efforts will encourage the local community to come and witness the stunning performance of the world's best athletes."

They added that part of the problem lay with many finals being held late in Qatar to fit global television schedules. "This impacts on the number of spectators remaining until the end of the session," the statement said. The organising committee added that attendances Sunday were "down on our expectations", which they said "coincided with the start of the working week in Qatar".

The unfilled seats will also raise questions

about the atmosphere that can be expected at the football World Cup in three years' time, although that sport's reach is greater than athletics. However, the lack of atmosphere in Doha has left those participating cold.

Canadian sprinter Andre de Grasse, the 100m bronze medallist, said: "It has maybe got to be closer to where everyone's fan bases are. "Qatar is quite far for fans to travel to but I think next year the Olympics (in Tokyo) won't be like that." Others have chipped in with Britain's 2000 Olympic heptathlon champion Denise Lewis launching a rare broadside at authorities.

"I don't think it's right," she told the BBC. "Our governing body has let our athletes down, massively. I didn't expect it to be this bad. We want to see people. The athletes deserve people, an energy and an atmosphere to thrive on."

Track legend Michael Johnson did not put the low attendance down to doping issues within the sport. "Lack of gaining new fans has nothing to do with doping," the American tweeted. "Cycling had a huge doping scandal. Still thriving!"



# Neuer out to settle keeper debate

Against Tottenham, Bayern captain will aim to prove he's still Germany's first choice ahead of ter Stegen

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
LONDON, SEPTEMBER 30

Bayern Munich captain Manuel Neuer heads into Tuesday's Champions League clash with Tottenham aiming for a display that settles the debate about whether he should remain Germany's first-choice goalkeeper ahead of Barcelona's Marc-Andre ter Stegen.

The showdown in London will be key in deciding who will win Group B, with Bayern currently top after beating Red Star Belgrade 3-0 in their opener a fortnight ago and Spurs needing a home victory to get back on track after throwing away a two-goal lead in a 2-2 draw at Olympiakos. Neuer will want to use the high-profile clash to prove his form after a shaky display on Saturday, in which he was twice beaten — including once from a long-range effort — at bottom club Paderborn.

Neuer could do little about the first goal, but was at fault when Paderborn defender Jamilu Collins scored from 30 metres out to make it 3-2 and give Bayern a nervy final 10 minutes before they eventually won and topped the Bundesliga for the first time this season. The captain insisted the result and his performance has "little bearing" on the Spurs game, but the shaky manner of the win detracted from the Bavarians taking first place.

"We should have decided the game earlier for ourselves," Neuer fumed as Bayern squandered chances before Robert Lewandowski scored what proved to be the winner with his 10th goal in six league games.

That display came on the same day Ter Stegen launched Barca to a 2-0 win at Getafe with a sensational long-range pass for Luis Suarez's opener after snuffing out an attack from the home side.

Ter Stegen had sparked a war of words between Germany's top goalkeepers when he said it was a "tough blow" to remain on the bench after watching Neuer beaten four times in a home defeat by the Netherlands in this month's Euro 2020 qualifier. The Barca keeper had been promised more games in 2019 by national coach Joachim Loew, but he has so far only had a 45-minute cameo against Serbia in March, and Neuer telling the 27-year-old his comments were unhelpful to team spirit only led to a terse reply of "Manu doesn't need to comment on my feelings".

While Loew has refused to be drawn on the row, Bayern's outspoken president Uli Hoeness waded in by insisting the Bundesliga champi-



Manuel Neuer will want to use the high-profile clash to prove his form after a shaky display on Saturday at Paderborn, in which he was twice beaten. Reuters

ons would refuse to let their stars play for Germany should Neuer be dropped, before eventually rolling back from the threat.

At 33, Neuer is entering the latter stage of his career and only a strong display at Spurs will silence the raging debate back home as to whether his rival should be promoted and end Neuer's nine-year reign as Germany's first-choice stopper.

With a high-profile friendly international looming at home to Argentina, Loew is under pressure to drop his captain after ditching fellow 2014 World Cup winners Mats Hummels, Thomas Mueller and Jerome Boateng in March.

Manuel Neuer has kept nearly 300 clean sheets in just over 600 Bundesliga games and was named in FIFA's World XI four years running up until 2016, when he was made German captain. He was at his peak in Brazil five years ago when his superb saves helped Germany lift the World Cup, but like many of his team-mates was far from his best in a disastrous 2018 campaign.

## Future tense for Alli

Hampered by injuries and poor form, Tottenham midfielder Dele Alli faces an uncertain future while his club are battling to recover from their own troubling period. In a clear indication of the malaise gripping Alli, the England international is far from certain to feature when Tottenham host Bayern.

That would have been unthinkable just two years ago when Alli was regarded as one of Europe's rising stars. Since then, the 23-year-old has been stuck in a steady decline that raises questions about his long-term future in north London. After appearing in four of Tottenham's five pre-season games, Alli was absent for the final friendly against Inter Milan due to the latest in a long line of hamstring issues.

Having missed games against Aston Villa, Manchester City and Newcastle, Alli was introduced on the hour for the 2-2 draw at Arsenal on September 1. But that remains Alli's lone Premier League action this term, with his two other appearances coming in two of Tottenham's most underwhelming displays of the current campaign. He was hauled off after 73 minutes of 2-2 Champions League draw at Olympiakos, with Tottenham reeling having blown a two-goal lead.

## Must improve to be a Galactico: Hazard

Barcelona: Real Madrid forward Eden Hazard said he needed to improve to live up to his 'Galactico' billing after a slow start to the season, having failed to score or assist for his new side.

The Belgian winger joined from Chelsea this summer for 100 million euros (\$109.07 million) as the marquee signing in the club's overhaul after a disastrous 2018-19 campaign.

Hazard is viewed as the replacement for Cristiano Ronaldo in Madrid's side, with the team's all-time top scorer departing for Juventus in the summer of 2018, and has inherited his No. 7 shirt.

"I'm not a Galactico yet, I have to show that I can be one," Hazard told reporters on Monday ahead of Real Madrid's Champions League clash with Club Brugge.

"We all know the history of the No. 7 at this club and I want to show that I can be the best in the world. I want to give my all, not just in matches but in training too."

Alli's current lowly place in Pochettino's pecking order was clear for all to see when he was forced to start in under-strength Tottenham side for their League Cup third round tie at minnows Colchester last week.

That Alli delivered a limp performance in Tottenham's shock penalty shootout defeat suggested Pochettino had been correct to use his playmaker so little. Alli's anonymous display in the depths of Essex was a cry for help, arguably the finest night of his career when his brace inspired Tottenham's 3-1 Champions League group stage victory over Real Madrid in November 2017.

Alli was hailed as Tottenham's next generational talent after a swaggering show capped by an impudent nutmeg of Real defender Sergio Ramos.

Yet since his star role in handing Madrid their first group stage loss for five years, Alli has been stuck in a rut. Cutting an increasingly peripheral figure in Tottenham's midfield, Alli's form was a concern for Mauricio Pochettino for much of last season.

# Powerlifter alleges coercion by NADA to collect sample, agency denies charge

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 30

AN ANDHRA powerlifter, Raghavendra Goud Yelugani, has alleged that the National Anti-Doping Agency used coercion to extract a fresh sample from him after the suspended National Dope Testing Laboratory's report of his B sample had cleared him of any violation.

However, a senior Project Officer from the NADA categorically denied any use of "force" and said that the powerlifter has "consistently used steroids as the fresh sample indicated".

The 24-year-old Raghavendra has alleged that the NADA forcibly collected a fresh sample from him at its Delhi headquarters and kept him provisionally suspended after that.

The documents in possession of PTI reveal that Raghavendra was tested 'In Competition' (IC) by the NADA during the National Unequipped Powerlifting Championship on September 30, 2018 and the sample was handed over to NDTL on October 3, 2018.

On January 9, 2019, NDTL's report had Adverse Analytical Finding (AAF) on three counts and Raghavendra tested positive for banned substances.

As per norm, he sought a test of his B sample on January 25, 2019 for a fee of Rs 11,500.

Raghavendra, in his letter to NADA Director General Naveen Agarwal, alleged that he was asked to come to NADA headquarters in New Delhi on March 29, 2019 and was forced to provide a third "urine sample", which according to him was used to suspend him.

This was after Raghavendra received a letter from NADA on August 7, 2018 which stated that his "B sample did not confirm the A sample adverse analytical finding (AAF)". Accordingly, Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) case couldn't be recorded against Raghavendra as per clause 7.3.4 of NADA's anti-doping rules. The clause states: "If the B sample analysis doesn't confirm the A sample analysis, then (unless NADA takes the case forward as an ADRV violation under clause 2.2), the entire test shall be considered "negative" and athlete, athlete's national federation, athlete's international federation and WADA shall be informed." However, it is understood that NADA kept him under provisional suspension because the test results of his B sample report (6342656), taken on his insistence late January, differed from the test result of fresh sample No (6364400), which the powerlifter alleged to

Raghavendra alleged that he was asked to come to NADA headquarters in New Delhi on March 29, 2019 and was forced to provide a third "urine sample", which according to him was used to suspend him.

have been forcibly collected from him on March 29 at NADA headquarters. Raghavendra's legal counsels Parth Goswami and Hemant Phalpher have questioned the alleged collection of a third sample collection in March after the 'B' sample was taken in January.

"In a letter written to Agarwal, the athlete has claimed that he was insulted and humiliated by NADA officials when he was called to the NADA office for investigation. He further claimed that he was forced to give his urine sample under duress and under threats of facing life ban from the sport.

"Lifter has also asked DG NADA to withdraw notice of charge for his sample collected at NADA office," the lawyers have written in the letter to NADA. NADA's Project Officer Dr Ankush Gupta told PTI that no force was used.

"Yes, his B sample report was negative after the A sample showed adverse analytical finding (AAF). However there was some discussions how parameters of A and B sample (collected at the same time) differed drastically. There was discussion and NADA DG asked us to conduct an inquiry to see why there is such anomaly," Gupta said. "Accordingly, he was called at the NADA office and our investigating officer Mr Sharma (full name he couldn't recollect) gave the athlete ample chance to explain his story. Since the reports have been different, we treated the case as null and void. The DG had said that if he is present, why don't we collect fresh sample from him," said Gupta, even though he didn't deny that the athlete was made to wait from morning till evening.

However, he rubbished claims that multiple officers threatened the powerlifter.

"Athletes keep coming to our office and we know how to handle them. Also, if the athlete is saying 10 officials were present, let me tell you, at any given point, we never have so many officers present in NADA office. Also the fresh sample again had AAF. He has been consistently using steroids," Gupta said.

## Scotland alive and kicking after bonus-point win over Samoa

Kobe (Japan): SCOTLAND GOT two penalty tries and Samoa winger Ed Fidow got a red card for giving away both of them in a pressure-relieving 34-0 win for the Scots at the Rugby World Cup on Monday. Fidow collapsed a maul to earn a first yellow card. He slid in knees first to stop Sean Maitland scoring for his second sin-bis offense with five minutes to go. The two yellows added up to a red to keep Samoa's terrible disciplinary record going at the World Cup. They had two yellows in their first game

and Fidow was also warned for punching.

Scotland's chances of reaching the quarter-finals would have been left hanging by a thread if it had slipped to a second straight loss in Pool A. The quarters are still by no means certain, but Scotland is in a much better position than it was after a 27-3 walloping by Ireland in its opener.

First-half tries by wing Maitland and scrumhalf Greig Laidlaw, and a dropped goal from distance by fullback Stuart Hogg, put

Scotland out of sight on a steamy night under the closed roof at Kobe Misaki Stadium. Hogg launched his drop from near halfway and wide out on the left wing for a 20-0 halftime lead. Scotland's two penalty tries came in the second half. Scotland host Japan in what might be a decider for the quarterfinals in the last pool game. Scotland plays Russia before that.

Samoa didn't score a point in a Rugby World Cup game for the first time in seven tournaments. AP



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**बुधवार, 2 अक्टूबर 2019, प्रातः 10.00 बजे किया जाएगा।**

**प्रदर्शनी की अवधि : 2—16 अक्टूबर, 2019**

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